Voting of Demands for Grants.

(1) 22—Medical—(*cont.*)

Motion No. 1—(*cont.*)

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar—Sir, I oppose this motion which goes by the high sounding words of a censure motion or as the Hon'ble Mover very cleverly put it, in order to evade the provisions of the Council Law, 'a motion that amounts to a censure of the Head of Department'. When I got the agenda and read the object of the motion, I expected some revelations of concrete instances to show the "*very unsatisfactory way in which the whole Medical Department is being managed*". But, Sir, I am sorely disappointed. Let us pause and examine the instances pointed out by the Hon'ble Mover. The first is the case of the Thiyya nurse. I here respectfully submit that the communities to which the aggrieved parties belonged are quite irrelevant for the purpose of the case. A clever advocate that the Hon'ble Mover is, he probably used this as a vote catching device. Whatever that be, let us examine those cases dispassionately. We know as a matter of fact that a lot of medicines are taken away and distributed clandestinely by the compounders, nurses, etc. It may be that the things that they take may be a dose of purgative at one time, an ounce of tincture of iodine next and so on. I need not tell the Hon'ble Member that it is all the same an offence whether the object stolen is small or big and the person committed it, is a nurse and that a Thiyya nurse. Let us consider what the Medical Officer has done. He is alleged to have recommended for her dismissal or dismissed her. Probably the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer honestly thought to make her case an example to others with a view to stop this undesirable practice.

Next is the case of Dr. Kunhan Nayar. The House will remember that I was the first to bring this matter to the notice of this Council. What is the charge against the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer? He is alleged to have recommended his dismissal. I do not know whether this allegation is true. When I asked for the information in this House, I was told that it is confidential. I do not know how the Hon'ble Mover got this information. Of course, I am not in the know of these things. Whatever that be, the so-called offence is committed in the presence of the Diwan. If the Chief Medical Officer has really recommended for dismissal, the fact that the Diwan, seeing the incident personally, thought it necessary to dismiss the doctor shows that the Chief Medical Officer erred in good

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company. And after all even if this recommendation is true, is it such a serious matter to deserve a vote of censure? Is it not almost a daily occurrence in Courts, where the District Judges recommend persons to be hanged and higher Courts setting them free? Is it not foolish to think of censure motions for all these?

In the case of the granting of leave to the mid-wife what has he done? He seems to have acted upon the report of the Civil Surgeon. Should he not do so? It would have been a different matter, if in this case, the Chief Medical Officer had himself examined her and found her not entitled to get leave. Is it his fault that the appointment of a Medical Board was resorted to in this case? To me it appears to be only a case in which, at the most, the Chief Medical Officer, who is supposed to be the chief authority on matters like this, ought to have been directed to examine her himself and dispose of the leave application. Instead of doing that, the extraordinary procedure of constituting a Medical Board was invoked which, who knows may not have the effect of ultimately undermining the very discipline of the Department. Is the Chief Medical Officer to be blamed for this?

Another serious charge against the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer is that he is following the policy of his predecessor in the matter of purchasing medicine without calling for tenders. I do not also approve of this policy if it really exists. From the way in which this policy was passively acquiesced in, if not approved of, by one section of this House during the regime of his predecessor, from which section curiously enough, the present complaint is raised, I am led to suspect that he followed it thinking that he has the support of that section. Now that he has found out that he has the support of none in this matter, I hope that he will change his policy.

Sir, any stick is good to beat a man if you don't like him. And probably this is an extreme example of it. I am not saying that there is absolutely no discontent in and against the Department. This was not an ideal Department when the present incumbent took charge of it. A new broom always sweeps clean. Our Chief Medical Officer in his anxiety to sweep clean, might have, in some cases blindly did his part and over-reached the mark. He might have been very strict or rather over-strict in enforcing rules in the matter of transfers and caused hardships to some individuals. It might also be that some of his subordinates might have found it difficult to have their own ways as before. One great redeeming feature of this heart-burning and discontent is that it is not confined to one particular sect or com-

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munity. Another thing, Sir, is that it has no reference to the efficiency of the administration. There is no complaint that the doctors are not attending to their patients properly, that there is deficiency in the quality or quantity of medicine or surgical instruments or accommodation supplied and in short about the want of attention paid and comforts meted out to the ailing public. Sir, my time is up and I shall conclude. I don't feel that I am competent to give an advice to the Chief Medical Officer. I had been following his actions carefully. A little more touch of humanity or at least a show of it in his relations with his subordinates may help to disarm this apparent opposition to him. With these few words, I strongly oppose this motion.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ.—ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ എതിർക്കുന്നു. ചീഫ് മെഡിയ്ക്കലാഫീസരുടെപേരിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ള ആക്ഷേപങ്ങളെല്ലാം ശരിയല്ലെന്നോ, അദ്ദേഹംചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള പ്രവൃത്തികളെല്ലാം വളരെ ശരിയാണെന്നോ ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല. ഒരു അവിശ്വാസ പ്രമേയം കൊണ്ടുവരത്തക്കവണ്ണമുള്ള തെറ്റുകൾ ആ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽ അദ്ദേഹം ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ എന്നാണ് നമുക്കാലോചിയ്ക്കേണ്ടത്. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ ശമ്പളം കുറയ്ക്കണമെന്ന് ഒരു പ്രമേയംഈ സഭയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ള ആളാണ് ഞാൻ. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഞാൻ അഭിപ്രായം പിടിച്ചു സംസാരിയ്ക്കുകയാണെന്നു തെറ്റിദ്ധരിയ്ക്കുവാൻ അവകാശമില്ല. ഒരു അവിശ്വാസ പ്രമേയം കൊണ്ടുവരണമെങ്കിൽ—അത് വളരെ ആലോചിച്ചു ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണ്".—അതിനുതക്കവണ്ണം തെറ്റുചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ എന്ന് പ്രത്യേകം ആലോചിയ്ക്കണം. ഒരുദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻചെയ്തതിനെ വേറൊരുദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻ മാറ്റിചെയ്യുന്നു. അതായത് ചീഫ് മെഡിക്കൽ ആഫീസർ ചെയ്തതിനെ ദിവാൻജി അവർകൾ മാറ്റിചെയ്തു. അതുകൊണ്ട് ചീഫ് മെഡിയ്ക്കലാഫീസർ ചെയ്തത് തെറ്റാണെന്നു പറയുന്നതു ന്യായമല്ല. അങ്ങിനെ വിചാരിയ്ക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഈ കൊച്ചി രാജ്യം ഭരിച്ചിരുന്ന ഓരോ ദിവാൻജിമാരുടേയും പേരിൽ ഓരോ അവിശ്വാസ പ്രമേയങ്ങൾ പാസാക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.

ഞാൻ മുമ്പൊരിയ്ക്കൽ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ ഒരു ദിവാൻജി ഒന്നുചെയ്താൽ മറ്റൊരു ദിവാൻജി വരുമ്പോൾ അതു മാറുക, ഇതു സമ്പ്രദായം വളരെ കാലമായി ഇവിടെ നടക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അസ്ഥിതിയ്ക്ക് എല്ലാ ദിവാൻജിമാരുടേയും പേരിൽ നമുക്ക് അവിശ്വാസ പ്രമേയം പാസാക്കാവുന്നതാണ്. പിന്നെ ഇവിടെ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ള തെറ്റുകൾ ഒരു ഡാക്ടരെ പണിയിൽനിന്നും പിരിച്ചുവെന്നാണ്. ആ ഡാക്ടർ വളരെ തെറ്റുചെയ്തുവെന്ന് സമ്മ

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തായ്ക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. പക്ഷെ ശിക്ഷ കുറച്ച് കവിഞ്ഞുപോയി എന്നാണ്. പിന്നെ കളവുചെയ്ത ഒരു സ്ത്രീയെ ക്രിമിനൽകോടതിയിലേയ്ക്കയച്ചാലെന്താണെന്നാണ് ചോദിച്ചിരിയ്ക്കുന്നത് അതിനും വേണ്ടപോലെയുള്ള ശിക്ഷയല്ല ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളത്. ഫ ഠ ശുപാപിഴയിടുന്നതിനുപകരം ഫ ഢ ശുപാ പിഴയിടുവെന്നാണ് മറൊരു കാരണം പറയുന്നത്. വേറെ ഒരു കുറ്റം ഒരു ഡാക്ടരെ സ്ഥലം മാറ്റി എന്നുള്ളതാണ്. വെള്ളവും സ്ഥൂട്ടം ഒന്നുമില്ലാത്ത സ്ഥലത്തെയ്ക്ക മാറ്റി എന്നാണ്. എന്നാൽ വെള്ളവും സ്ഥൂട്ടം ഇല്ലാത്ത ടിക്കാണെങ്കിലും അവിടേയും ഒരു ഡാക്ടർ പോകാതെ കഴിയുകയില്ല. അങ്ങിനെ ആ ഡാക്ടർ ഇഷ്ടപ്പെട്ട സ്ഥലത്തെയ്ക്ക് മാറ്റം കൊടുത്തില്ല എന്നല്ലാതെ അദ്ദേഹത്തെ അങ്ങോട്ട മാറ്റിയതിലും തെറ്റൊന്നും കണ്ടില്ല. കുറ്റംചെയ്തവക്ക് കൊടുത്ത ശിക്ഷ കുറച്ച കവിഞ്ഞുപോയി എന്നല്ലാതെ അതിലും തെറ്റൊന്നും കണ്ടില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള ഒരു സെൻസർമാനെ കൊണ്ടുവന്നാട്ടുള്ളതിന്റെ ആവശ്യം എനിയ്ക്ക് മനസ്സിലായിട്ടില്ല. അതിനാൽ ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ ബലമായി എതിർക്കുന്നു.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—Sir, after hearing the mover of this motion, I am very sorry that this motion is couched in intemperate language and the motion itself was made rather in a very serious tone. My friend the Hon'ble Member for Palliviruthi who moved this motion is a lawyer and he must have been satisfied that he was not able to make out any case for making such a statement before this House.

President.—The Hon'ble Member should not characterise him as a liar. He will withdraw his statement.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—I said lawyer. Sometimes that name is applied to lawyers. Now the facts placed before this House to substantiate the motion of the very unsatisfactory way in which the department is managed, are some 3 or 4 incidents. As my friend from Urakam mentioned, the case of a Thiyya pupil nurse was placed in the forefront. My friend only suspected. I am confident that it is for vote catching because many of the incidents that are taking place in this very House are more or less of a communal nature. I was really surprised when a Christian member stood up for the purpose of advocating the cause of a Thiyya pupil nurse who has committed theft. There is absolutely no difference of opinion with regard to the facts. The theft was committed. What was the punishment to be meted out to that culprit was the only question. Now, the Diwan was rather a little bit kind-hearted, most probably on the plea or cry of some M. L. C. Vakil that this girl should not be kicked out of the office. On the other hand, if the C. M. and

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S. O. had handed over the girl to the police with the articles stolen what could the Chief Medical Officer and the Diwan do afterwards? The Magistrate would have given her something and this would have debarred her from ever entering the Cochin State service. With regard to the theft there is no question. It is not Mac-sulph. If I understand it correctly, it was a sort of dangerous theft, of some powders. Taking them without labels outside the hospital and if it is administered by a pupil nurse, what the censequences will be, I cannot imagine. I understand that half a dozen powders of different varieties were taken away from the hospital and without label showing what those powders are. If the nurse administered these powders to any of the outside public, the consequences would have been very serious and I am really very sorry that she was ever entertained in the Department afterwards.

Now I come to the case of Kunjan Nayar. He is a Nayar and so naturally my Hon'ble friend expected the support of the Nayar Members for the purpose of this motion. It is very good to say that he has got half-a-dozen children. But he ought to have considered that when he administered that beating to an insane woman committed to his custody and if I understand correctly, the Chief Medical Officer did not make any recommendation in the matter of punishment because the Diwan was an eye-witness. Occular demonstration is the best of proof and if the Diwan dismissed him, I think he was right and the Government was wrong, I may say, in re-instating him again . That is my own honest opinion.

Coming to the case of Lakshmikutty Amma, I myself had to do something with that. It is I who wrote to the Diwan on seeing this scandal reported in papers that are sold for 3 pies almost in all the public streets and at the ferry jetties. Whether it is true or false, the conduct of the two individuals was discussed in these papers thus making the Civil Hospital, Trichur, an institution to which so many had to go, a sort of—I don't want to say the word, it is rather unparliamentary. I sent a cutting of one of these papers to the Diwan to take immediate action, so that this institution may be free from this scandal. Whether there is any truth or not is not the question. These two, one man and one woman, behaved in such a way that by their conduct they made the public to suspect their conduct. They ought to have been dismissed from the service, both of them. The question of children does not come in at all. They ought to have behaved better and I say it was—rather leniency on the part of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer and the Diwan to have retained them in the department one moment longer.

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Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—What was the offence, please?

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—Scandalous behaviour between a man and a woman publicly in the hospital.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—That does not seem to be the offence with which she is now charged.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—That was found in the papers. And I saw an appeal from some of the Christians to the Bishop requesting not to send the nuns to the Trichur Hospital. That was the cutting that I sent to the Diwan. Can anything be more scandalous? For taking action in these matters, to come to this House and to move a motion, which is according to the mover, a little short of a censure, I really can't understand. So, I whole-heartedly oppose this motion.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—ഞാനും ഈ മോഷനെ എതിർക്കുന്നു. ഇതിന്റെ അവതാരകൻ പറഞ്ഞ അഭിപ്രായങ്ങൾ എല്ലാം അബദ്ധമാണെന്നു വച്ചു ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ എതിർക്കുന്നതു്. ഒരു സെൻസർ മോഷന്റെ നിലയിൽ ഈ മോഷൻ ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിയ്ക്കുത്തക്ക സംഗതികളൊന്നും വന്നിട്ടില്ലെന്നുള്ള ധാരണയിന്മേലാണു് ഞാൻ എതിർക്കുന്നതു്. എല്ലാ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടുകളിലും ഉള്ളതുപോലെ ചില കാരണവശാൽ ചില ന്യൂനതകൾ മെഡിയ്ക്കൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിലും ഉണ്ടായിരിയ്ക്കാം. അതിനു് ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു സെൻസർ മോഷൻ കൊണ്ടുവരേണ്ട ആവശ്യമൊന്നുമില്ല. അതോടുകൂടിതന്നെ ഈ സെൻസർമോഷനെ എതിർത്ത ചില മെമ്പർമാർ ചിലരെ കുറ്റക്കാരാണെന്നു തെറ്റിദ്ധരിച്ചു് അവരെപ്പറ്റി വളരെ ശക്തിയായി പ്രയോഗിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ആക്ഷേപങ്ങളേയും ഞാൻ എതിർക്കുന്നു. നിരപരാധികളായ അവരുടെ മേൽ ആരോപിച്ച കുറ്റംതെളിയിയ്ക്കുവാൻ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിനോ വർത്തമാനപത്രങ്ങൾക്കോ ഇതുവരെ സാധിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ആശുപത്രിയിലെ ജോലിക്കാരായ ഒരു സ്ത്രീയും, ഒരു പുരുഷനും അവിടെയുണ്ടായിരുന്ന ഒരു മേശയുടെ രണ്ടുവശത്തും ഇരുന്നു സംസാരിച്ചുവെന്നുള്ളതാണതെ അവരുടെ പേരിലുള്ള കുറ്റം. പ്രത്യേകിച്ചും ആ സ്ത്രീയും പുരുഷനും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം സിദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളവരാണെന്നു് ഒരു ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെമ്പർതന്നെ ഇവിടെ സമ്മതിയ്ക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. ഒരു ആശുപത്രിയിൽതന്നെ ജോലി ചെയ്യുവുന്നവരായ ഇവർ രണ്ടുപേർ മേശയുടെ രണ്ടുഭാഗത്തും ഇരുന്നു സംസാരിച്ചാൽ അതു് മെമ്പർ പറഞ്ഞ മാതിരി സ്കാൻഡലസ് ബിഹെവിയർ ആകുന്നതെങ്ങിനെ? വർത്തമാനപത്രങ്ങളിൽ വല്ലവരും സ്കാൻഡലസ ആയി വല്ലതും എഴുതിയാൽ അതുവച്ചു രണ്ടു നിരപരാധികളെ കുറ്റപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതു് സാഹസമാണു്. മെമ്പർ പറഞ്ഞതു് അവരെ ഉടനെ ഡിസ്മിസു് ചെയ്യേണ്ടതായിരുന്നുവെന്നാണു്. കരുണയും ന്യായവും എല്ലാവരോടും ഉണ്ടായിരിയ്ക്കണം. ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെ

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ഡിയ്ക്കൽ മെമ്പറോട്ട് ന്യായവും നീതിയും കാണിയ്ക്കണമെന്ന് എങ്ങിനെ നാം ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നുവോ അതുപോലെതന്നെ നാം ഏതു നിസ്സാരന്മാരോടും ന്യായവും നീതിയും കാണിയ്ക്കണം. ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെഡിയ്ക്കൽ മെമ്പറെ താങ്ങുവാൻവേണ്ടി നമുക്ക് മറ്റുള്ളവരുടെ തലയിൽ ചവിട്ടി നിൽക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല. മറ്റുള്ളവരുടെ തലയിൽ കയറി നിൽക്കാതെതന്നെ താഴെനിന്നുകൊണ്ട് മെഡിയ്ക്കൽ മെമ്പർ അവർകളെ നമുക്ക് താങ്ങുവാൻ സാധിയ്ക്കും. (ഹീയർ, ഹീയർ) ഇവിടെ ചെയ്തിരുന്ന മെമ്പർ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതുപോലെ മെഡിയ്ക്കൽ ആഫീസർ തന്റെ കീഴിൽ ഉള്ളവരോട് ഇപ്പോൾ പെരുമാറിവരുന്ന മനസ്ഥിതിയിൽ സ്വല്പമൊരു മാറ്റം വരുത്തുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഈ വക യാതൊരു പരാതികൾക്കും ഇടവരികയില്ലെന്നു തോന്നുന്നു. തീയ്യ നേഴ്സ് കുറ്റം ചെയ്തുവെന്നു കണ്ടാൽ ശിക്ഷിയ്ക്കണം. തീയ്യ സമുദായത്തിനോട് ചീഫ് മെഡിയ്ക്കൽ ആഫീസർക്ക് വിരോധം ഉള്ളതായി ഞങ്ങൾക്കാർക്കും പരാതിയില്ല. അങ്ങിനെ ഞങ്ങൾക്കാർക്കും അനുഭവവും ഇല്ല. ഈ വക വാദങ്ങൾ ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരേണ്ട ഒരു ആവശ്യവുമില്ല.

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—Sir, I oppose the motion. So far as I have been able to see from the speeches made by the Hon'ble Members, the Hon'ble Member for Medicine does not appear to have done anything which deserves such treatment at their hands. I am also sorry that some of the Hon'ble Members, most probably unconsciously, have been using language which is opposed to all principles of decency and decorum. It is our duty to maintain the dignity and prestige of this House even under circumstances of the gravest provocation. What after all has the Member for Medicine done? He ordered the dismissal of a nurse, who was found guilty of theft, and in certain other cases submitted to the Government certain recommendations, which he considered proper under the circumstances. The Hon'ble Members themselves admit that they are unable to justify the conduct of the subordinates concerned. Their only contention is that the punishment proposed was out of all proportion to the seriousness of the misconduct complained of. This is a matter upon which there is room for honest difference of opinion and I do not think that there is sufficient justification for tabling such a cut motion.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao:—Sir,

Yesterday, there was a lot of vitriolic ebullition and vituperative language used against me in this Council Hall, which, I am afraid, conduces very little to the dignity of this House. I do not say for a moment that I am infallible and I want the Hon'ble Members of this House to criticise me and severey

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too, for any wrong action of mine; because I represent a department which is intended to do good to the suffering humanity. In a recent speech of his, the Rt. Hon'ble Stanley Baldwin, Member of Parliament, said that oratory is the harlot of arts; Sir, I have never been a public speaker and I stand here at a great disadvantage when learned counsels whose lives from morning till evening is spent on arguments. I certainly feel that I shall fail in the task. It is very rare that men in my profession excel in the art of making public speeches as my friend the Hon'ble Member for Cheruviruthi. Very few possess the gift of free speech and to express one's thoughts freely in a public institution like this requires training. I shall just state facts as they are. I request the Hon'ble Members of this House to decide whether a condemnation of the type that was given expression to last evening in this House is deserved by me or not.

Broadly speaking two charges were levelled against me. The first was that my disciplinary measures were too strict. The second criticism was about my purchases on behalf of the Department. I request this House to be a bit indulgent and allow me some time in bringing forward a few points before this House. Sir, in old days discipline, that existed in my department was of a very severe type with the result that subordinates behaved properly. I shall just give two or three instances.

The lid of a deal wood box was stolen by one of the sweepers of the General Hospital and I had to send him to the Magistrate's Court. He was sentenced for two months though I had to maintain his family. This was the lid of an empty deal wood case. Second is an instance of a thotty stealing an empty bottle costing an anna. When found out, he ran away and he had to be extradited, costing the Government pretty large sum. He was sentenced for two months and was sent to the Central Jail. There was a third instance of a thotty in the General Hospital stealing a pair of scissors and selling it for four annas in a coffee shop. The matter when brought to my notice was reported to the police and the culprit was sentenced by the Magistrate. It is impossible to detect these cases always and catch the people. In hospitals almost everything is kept open and there is a chance for dishonest people to steal things. We cannot always keep instruments, sundries and medicines under lock and key; and it is very rarely that we are in a position to catch the culprit and when we get them unless we give exemplary punishment it will not be a deterrent to others. If we are not strict it is not possible to maintain discipline. In the case of this nurse Kutamma, which has been brought before this House stating that she

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took a very small dose of salt to be used as a pergative, I may state that it is not a fact. The real facts of the case are:—the Mother Superior of the Italian Sisters one day, when the nurse was away on leave, that day being a Vishu holiday, found a parcel of medicines underneath the cot of the nurse which were stolen and secreted by her to be taken home when opportunity arose. On an examination of the contents of the parcel which I had preserved for a very long time and which was shown to the Diwan himself by me it was noticed that several varieties of powders without any label whatsoever consisting of about seven sets of powders and a bottle consisting of about 12 ounces of castor oil, marked 'Poison' was noticed. The bottle contained camphor at bottom as sediment. It is quite improper that these things should happen where several are trained and where articles are kept in easy access. There is no doubt of her intention. Difference of opinion may arise as regards the punishment meted out by me. I leave it to the House:—

Now coming to the next point about which so much has been said and such a lot has been spoken here, I shall put before the House the opinion of a medical man who is one of the members of the Medical Board in administrative charge of the Department in the sister State of Travancore. Here it is.—

"During a recent visit to Ernakulam you discussed with me the case of a Sub-Assistant Surgeon who was on duty at the Mental Hospital on the morning in which Mr. Herbert and yourself paid a visit to that institution. A woman inmate had thrown a little human faeces at the Medical Officer and in his anger he gave the poor insane woman a severe beating, leaving her bruised and suffering. My reply to you was that the Sub-Assistant Surgeon guilty of such a charge should be dismissed from the service and as a matter of fact his name should be struck off the medical register if that was possible. But considering the seriousness of the offence and from the standpoint of discipline I should adhere to my first decision 'dismissal'. Men of this type should be taught a good lesson and I am afraid a small punishment would be of little service to bring such characters in our noble profession to their senses."

I am not the only man who think that this is serious. Again there is an opinion current that I recommended his dismissal. It is contrary to facts. I shall give you the opinion of another medical man Dr. G. N. Coombes who was for about 30 years the Head of the Department. He writes from Italy, "The beating of the poor lunatic by Mr. P. Kunjan Nayar is atrocious. He certainly did not deserve the compassionate allowance. It was a mistake." Take it for what it is worth.

I just move on to the next charge and that is about Assistant Surgeon Mr. Antony. Official courtesy and rules prevent me from stating much that is of a confidential nature. I shall not dwell on that but I may assure this House that I had never

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in my recommendation stated anything against Mr. Antony. On the other hand what I said was "I do not for a moment believe that there was anything of an undesirable intimacy between the two. Knowing as I do that social relationships in this part of the country are not the same between the two sexes as they exist in western countries, I think in the interest of one's fair name one should respect the sentiments of the public amongst whom we live." This is all that I had said whereas it has been talked about all through the State that I had written several things against him. It is all a process of snowball. If you create a certain impression about a man carry it on to the next man it is made bigger and bigger just like a snowball which after all has nothing substantial.

Now the next is Lakshmikutty Amma's termination of services. I am sorry, I cannot, considering the courtesy that I have to show towards confidential correspondence expose anything further. I shall take the whole blame upon myself.

The last instance that was mentioned here was about midwife Anna Joseph, not having been given the leave requested for by her. I shall just state the facts of the case.

"Midwife Anna Joseph was appointed in State service on 1st Vrischigam 1089. She was working in the Civil Hospital, Trichur. In the year 1099 finding that there was a lot of puerperal morbidity amongst patients attended upon by her and after verification of this fact by the then Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer Dr. Coombes, she was transferred to the General Hospital, Ernakulam, so that she might be trained again under better supervision in order to avoid complications after deliveries attended by her. No doubt she is popular amongst people in Trichur, but the popularity is based more upon her behaviour than her professional skill and knowledge. The Civil Hospital at Trichur has not been doing any Midwifery work ever since the Edward Memorial Maternity Hospital there was constructed in the year 1089. As per her transfer order she joined duty in the General Hospital, Ernakulam, and on the same day went away on casual leave. She did not join duty at the expiry of this leave and as such forfeited her appointment, which fact has been noted in her service register which is herewith forwarded for perusal and return.

Subsequent to this, after the retirement of Dr. Coombes she petitioned to the Diwan and got herself reinstated as per Diwan's Proceedings Dis. No. 2404/99, dated 1st May 1924, Local and Legislative Department, which fact also is noted in the service register.

When I took charge of the Civil Hospital in 1926, I found that she was doing no work in the Civil Hospital and recommended that she might be transferred to the Maternity Hospital so that her services could be utilised better. She evaded this and continued to work in the Civil Hospital till recently. Though she has enclosed a letter from Mr. C. A. Ouseph, B. A., B. L., M. L. C., and another from Mr. Jos. K. Verghese, Panchayat President, along with her appeal petition, I am constrained to bring to the notice of the Diwan the havoc that a person of her type can produce by her negligence and ignorance of modern midwifery amongst the women population. A copy of a letter from Civil Surgeon Miss. G. M. D'Souza is herein enclosed. I have myself come accross a few cases of puerperal morbidity amongst patients attended upon by her. I therefore transferred her to the Maternity

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Hospital so that she may work there under better supervision and get a short training in cleaner methods. It was in the best interest of the patient population that the above course was adopted. In spite of the fact that the Maternity Hospital is situated just on the other side of the road on which the Civil Hospital is located and also that her house is within a few yards from the Maternity Hospital she preferred to be on leave and put in her application for privilege leave for 4 months on the very day she joined the Maternity Hospital on the pretext of ill-health. The application is herein enclosed.

The leave was granted to her. At the end of this period she did not join duty, but forwarded to me her leave application for a year's furlough on the ground of ill-health. I then asked her to appear before the Assistant Surgeon, Maternity Hospital, who in her report dated 28th Dhanu 1107 stated that there was nothing wrong with her (copy of report enclosed). Thereupon her leave was refused as per this office memo dated 16th January 1932 (copy enclosed.) Instead of joining duty she sent me a petition enclosing a letter in vague terms from the Civil Surgeon, Trichur (copies enclosed.) Consequent to this I directed her to appear before the Civil Surgeon, Trichur, so that he may certify whether her illness was of such a nature as to necessitate the furlough for a year as prayed for by her. The Civil Surgeon's letter dated 16th Makaram 1107 copy of which is herein enclosed will prove to the hilt as to the reality or not of her illness.

Subsequent to her appeal petition enclosing the certificate from Dr. A. R. Menon, I asked the Civil Surgeon, Trichur, and the Assistant Surgeon, Maternity Hospital, what they had to say about her condition in view of Dr. A. R. Menon's opinion. I forwarded that certificate for the perusal of both these officers. I am enclosing copies of the memo issued to them and their replies thereto. It will be seen from all these records that the one attempt of the mid-wife is to avoid the supervision over her work and that she is only malingering is fully evident to me as I have seen her myself going about the town on her rounds during every visit of mine to Trichur during the last 2 months. I am perfectly satisfied that this is an attempt of hers to circumvent the departmental discipline by enclosing certificates from influential people. During her service in the Civil Hospital, finding her work unchecked, my predecessor in office Dr. Verghese had even ordered the deputation of a Sub-Assistant Surgeon to go round and see the patients attended upon by her in the town. This practice was found very difficult of practical achievement.

If I were satisfied that her request for the furlough on reasons of ill-health were true, I would not have refused it and her transfer to the Maternity Hospital was as much in her own interest as that of the public at large in as much as she could derive benefit by imbibing modern aseptic methods of midwifery."

The reason for my not giving her leave was this. As per the Budget we are given 5 per cent of the salary as leave allowance. A perusal of the list that I have submitted to the Government in connection with an answer to a question in this House will show that there was a large average of people on leave. In Makaram 1106, 57 people were on leave in the Department, 67 in Kumbham, 52 again in Meenam, 70 in Medam 55 in Edavam, 56 in Mithunam, 47 in Karkadagam, 42 in

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Chingam 1107, 49 in Kanni, 42 in Thulam, 46 in Vrischigam 48 in Dhanu, 58 in Makaram, 66 in Kumbham, 63 in Meenam 56 in Medam and 71 in Edavam.

From the impression that has been created in this House it would look that the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer does not allow anybody to enter on leave but the number of people to whom leave was refused was really very few as will be seen from the answers to questions submitted to this House.

Then again the matter of punishments meted out by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer was brought before this House. The few cases that were mentioned here were those in which the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer has no power to decide and it was the Government who passed the orders. As regards the others there were 52 cases in which the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer made enquiries and of these most of the complaints were either frivolous or false and did not receive any consideration. They were simply recorded. There were 9 cases in which I warned the subordinates, in 7 cases I had to transfer them and in two or three cases I fined them a rupee each, one for having used Alwaye water for washing clothes in the Mattancheri Hospital in another a midwife, for being careless in handling a labour case which ended in the patient's death. Another was the case of a midwife who sent a small-pox patient on to the road from the Maternity Hospital, Trichur, about which an adjournment motion was about to be moved in this Council.

The Hon'ble Members of this House have to realise that we have to extract a certain amount of work from these servants in the interests of suffering patients, but to create a public opinion by simply saying that the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer is cruel to all his subordinates is not fair. The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer is not a fire-eater as was described here.

Now coming to the question of purchases. This is a vexed question that has been brought often before this House. I had myself written on several occasions to the Government about this matter. Unfortunately we have not got a big Reserve Store where we can purchase everything and stock as in Madras, Travancore and Mysore. The net result is that orders have to be placed with Firms for direct shipment to the different institutions. The result of this is that many a time articles of inferior quality or quite different from what has been indented for, are sent at exhorbitant prices. For the information of this House I have brought several things which would prove this. Sir, some of the Members ask " why don't you call for tenders ?'

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Here is an instance (*showing a tea pot to the House*). This is a thing which we can get for a rupee or Rs. 1—4—0 from our local shops and the firm which supplied has billed Government at Rs. 6. The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer cannot understand the difficulty and detect the fraud then and there because it is sent directly by the firm concerned to the respective institutions. Here is another instance. (*a bowl exhibited before the House*). I got this down yesterday from the Civil Hospital, Trichur. The Firm has charged Rs. 2—8—0 for this, an article which we can purchase from the bazaar for 8 annas at the most. Here is another which is called an instrument tray for which the Firm charges Rs. 2—4—0. The name is very good ; but it is really a pie dish costing 10 or 12 annas. This is what happens when we call for tenders. I must state facts. Either trust the man or—

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Why can't you call for tenders from the local shops ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—As a matter of fact it is not necessary.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Why can't you send all those back to the firms concerned and demand refund ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—If it comes to his notice. This was purchased 6 years ago. It is not so much the price alone, Sir. It depends upon the Firm with which we are dealing. There is no use of blaming the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Was this from Dadha ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I can't say. Sir, when I went to Chowwara Dispensary for inspection the other day the Doctor in charge showed me several bottles of Lysol. Here is one brought from there yesterday to be shown to this House. It contains only ordinary crude Phenyl. The cost of this bottle is a rupee and eight annas where as the price of a gallon of crude Phenyl *i. e.* 10 bottles of this size, will be only the same. Now Sir, the cost of Santonine, ordinary worm powder is about Rs. 500 a pound. If the Firm is not an honest one who have not got real status and standing and a reputation to loose it is very easy for them to put in a few oz. of Boric Acid which is not worth even 3 pies. It will be hard to detect it. Sir, certain amount of confidence has to be reposed on the officer. My position is that of a frog in the well. No one can be sure whether it drinks or not. I shall quote another instance. Sir, we wanted Quinine. The current market price is Rs. 25 per lb. British Government Quinine was being supplied to us for about Rs. 19 per pound from the Panitentiary, Madras. I came

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to know that I could get from Amsterdam superior Quinine for charitable purposes at cheaper rate. I wrote to the Dutch Government and from the Kina Bureau, Amsterdam, I purchased Quinine, about 350 lbs. of the best quality at Rs. 13—8—0. They are not people who will tender for their supply. Similarly there are many things which I have been getting at cheap prices. Sir, these unfounded attacks have touched my very heart. Here is Caster oil (*2 samples shown*). This one costs about Rs. 5 a gallon where as the other costs only about Rs. 2. No use of blaming your Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer. Here are three nail brushes. One costs 6 pence, the other a shilling and a third 2/6. It is no use to depend on mere low prices, quality has to be considered.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The distinction can be seen even from here.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes. If the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer purchases this from Mr. Koder at Rs. 5 instead of purchasing this other quality for Rs. 2 per gallon and if he is to be hanged for that, I am afraid that you will have to hang your Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer every day. (*Laughter*) Sir, you might have heard the Member for Anthikkad asking questions rather of an insinuating type. I could not brook these things and so I went to the Diwan and explained to him all these matters. I would request the Hon'ble Members of this House to come over to my Office and see for themselves how I am purchasing all these things.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—May I know whether the Diwan was satisfied with your explanations?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes. Then, Sir, coming to cotton wool. We are getting cotton wool at 11 annas this year from the Elgin Mills, Cawnpore, whereas our former rate was about Rs. 1—1—0. These Mills are not going to tender to us. I wrote to them requesting for a further reduction and yesterday I received a reply from them stating that they will give us a 5 % reduction. Similarly there are many things. Here, Sir, this tube contains Catgut. 5 feet of this cost Re. 1 whereas this one (*both samples shown in the House*) which is 100 feet costs only Rs. 2—8—0. We tried the latter in some operations and found it very bad.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Has it been sterilised?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes. But the inside of it cannot be sterilised. These are technical matters which these Vakils who are dealing with these subjects cannot understand.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warrier.—Only Members, not Vakils.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes, Members.

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If you are prepared to trust the man trust him. You give me a lakh and 16 thousand. I have to see that with that amount I have to stock the supply in sufficient quantity for the poor. Money has not been my consideration. I joined the Department 25 years ago as the lowest officer. I have nothing more to add.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—May I know, Sir, whether others can speak in view of his explanation ?

President.—I don't think.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Is it the Hon'ble Member's reply or explanation ?

President.—His reply.

Mr. George Chakyamuri—Sir, I don't want to question the Hon'ble Member's capacity for shopping. I am satisfied that in that branch of his work he has shown extraordinary capacity, and I know he is qualified also especially for that. But my complaint has been mainly about the way he has been treating his subordinates. No doubt as I myself pointed out when I moved this motion, there had been cases which deserved punishment. But my only complaint was that punishment was always excessive and that there was no proportion between the offences committed and the punishment which the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer proposed to inflict. I do not want to press this motion to a division, but before I request the leave of the House to withdraw this motion, I think it is my duty to repeat once more that in tabling this motion I have been actuated with only a sheer sense of public duty. I brought this motion to this House simply because I was satisfied that there was very serious discontent going on in the Department and I think it was my duty as a Member of this House to draw attention of the Government to this fact. With these observations, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 2.

As the mover was absent the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,16,000 for cost of medicine, instruments, by Re. 1.*

(*To get information about the purchase of medicine, etc., in the Medical Department and to discuss the policy involved therein.*)

Motion No. 3.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,000 for Hospital—Miscellaneous by Re. 1.*

Sir, I have tabled this motion to consider the feasibility of purchasing bandages, soaps, etc., locally. I had occasion to find

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one day a bus-driver handing over a package to the Chittur Hospital and on enquiry I was told it was from Ernakulam. However cheap the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer will be able to get from Ernakulam, considering the transport charges from the place to his office and from there to Chittur, it will surely be far above the price for which these articles can be had at Chittur; and soaps and tea shops can be had everywhere. So I think it is merely a waste of money that soaps and bandages are purchased from Ernakulam. I presume bandages are purchased from Sitaram Mills. These are taken here paying transport charges and sent from here to Chittur paying transport charges, again. Chittur is a place from which these things can be easily bought. It is simply to bring this before the Government that I have tabled this motion.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I am very happy to explain to this House this matter. Bandage cloth used to be supplied from here and the nature of the article (*sample shown*) was this. It is only 27 inches broad and of a coarse type. I have studied this problem. I got the English variety, went to Sitaram Mills, and asked Mr. Balarama Ayyar to produce cloth of that type, (*sample produced*). This is white and very comfortable to patients. Now coming to the cost. 4,800 yards of this coarse cloth called മഞ്ഞക്കുപ്പ was purchased by the Department in a year previous to my coming at the rate of 2 annas 9 pies per yard locally at Ernakulam and supplied to the different institutions, whereas this supply is sent direct to the institutions by the Sitaram Mills at the rate of 2 annas, 2 2/5 pies. Now considering the width, one is 27 inches and the other is 45 inches. I have made a comparison. In the year previous to my coming, cloth was purchased, 4,800 yards at a cost of Rs. 825 versus, 8,000 yards for Rs. 737. I am positive that if anybody can show that these things can be locally purchased cheaper and of an equal quality I shall certainly be very glad. These supplies are, moreover, made to the different institutions without any extra cost to us.

As regards the supply of soap it used to be purchased from the Kerala Soap Works (Government Soap Works) at Calicut and the monthly supply was 79 pounds. The cost of 79 pounds (packing railway freight everything included) used to come to about Rs. 37 per month. It would be seen last year after I came, 4,000 pounds were supplied to the different institutions whereas only 950 pounds were supplied during the previous year and the price also was cheaper.

Then again quality. I got a special quotation from the Manager of the Tata Oil Mills to supply me soap containing 68

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per cent pure soap, the best of the type. The price of soap was Rs. 22 for 112 pounds. This supply, hereafter, instead of sending it every quarter, to the various hospitals, I have made it a point to send it along with the annual supply of medicines so that even the freight may be reduced.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, on a point of information, was not the Department taking bandages from the jail ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Formerly. But the cost was more. Because it was hand woven ; naturally the price must go up whereas this is made in the mills.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 4.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 21,718 for temporary establishment—Hospital by Re. 1.*

Sir, I have tabled this motion to discuss the subject, *viz.*, the principle of introducing gradually—mark you 'gradually'—the honorary system in hospitals. This subject has been brought before this House on more occasions than one during the time of the predecessor of the present Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer and I believe though we did not press for a division the general tendency of this House was to introduce this system gradually, so much so that the Government have lately undertaken on a small measure to introduce this system. I am not very optimistic that this will be received with that consideration and that sympathy which it deserves. I being the only medical man, barring the Vice President, who can voice forth the grievances of the medical profession which has been practically ruined by the method adopted by the Government in this State, I cannot restrain myself from bringing forward to the notice of the Government the calamity that has been brought by a careless understanding of this system. The House should remember that I am repeating the same thing almost everytime because the same subject can only have the same argument. The House must see that in no part of the world except India, in no part of the civilised world, if you please, are the medical men paid for the services rendered by them. I only request the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer to tackle with this subject if the statement is wrong. I believe that he himself has appreciated the benefits of the system. During the discussion on this subject in the Special Finance Committee the present Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, who was the Civil Surgeon at Trichur, wrote a memorandum in favour of this subject. The House may ask, has not the Government undertaken this

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subject ?' Have not they introduced this system ? Is not your request itself to introduce it gradually ? My point is, I would rather say, that there is no name of honorary system introduced within the system now in vogue. At least in future when this question is again discussed in this House these Members who have some doubt about the efficacy of this system will have an argument about it because of the working of this system. Every honorary staff has been selected, carefully selected, so that he may not be a serious opposition to the existing staff. If there is one man who is fit to be selected in Ernakulam there is Dr. Puthuran. He is an eye specialist. He he ceen in charge of the Manchester Infirmary, one of the greate eye Infirmaries in the world. When you introduce honorary system you only take such men as basin-carriers, bandage-rollers and bottle-fetchers. Nothing more. After working it for some time you will come to the conclusion that the honorary system has been tried and is found wanting. I would rather support the idea of the honorary system than continue the present system. That is one point.

The second point is I have warned this Honse a few years ago that the expenditure of this department is mounting up, and corresponding to the money spent the people do not get the benefit, for the simple reason that a good portion of the amount is distributed in the shape of salary. I was very careful in asking the Government not to meddle with the existing staff but to let them serve the full term and retire; and hereafter no paid medical man shall be introduced in the medical institutions. We recommended that in the Taluk hospitals there is only one medical man, as the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer said yesterday. There is no operation that could be performed by one man. The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer will bear witness to that statement. Therefore we suggested to this House that additional hands should be appointed and that additional men may be honorary men in such local institutions. What was the result? Immediately after this proposal another seven people were appointed. I do not want to enter into the details of the vicious circle and the nature of those appointments because the person responsible for them is not present. Now in every hospital, in every small hospital, there are two medical men. Making a comparison between the Calicut Hospital and the Ernakulam General Hospital and again the Palghat Hospital and the Trichur Civil Hospital, you will find enormous differences existing between these institutions. Now I ask the Government, who are very anxious that there must be retrenchment and who say that there is very great economic difficulty, why

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they could not adopt this sound policy. A time will come when with the advance of medical science and unless you radically change this method you will not be able to supply buildings and other medical requirements with this expenditure. I do not want to do any harm to those who are already in service. I take equal interest in those who are in the service and those who are not in the service. There must be a spirit of trade unionism in every profession. In spite of the attacks that I levelled against the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer there is that spirit. And we see in that when legal questions are taken all the legal men join together to safeguard their interest and I think that they will oppose any proposal of an honorary medical system that I advocate in this House. There is another aspect apart from the financial aspect. Fixity of tenure and stability always produce a spirit of stagnation and indifference in the officers concerned. Nobody will say that England is a poor country that it cannot afford the medical men being paid. Hence it is suggested that no medical man should be safeguarded by payment of money. He can keep his intellect sure and his conduct better so that he may get his living by private practice. Private practice presupposes certain qualities and these are some of the qualities necessary. It is for this purpose that money payment shall not be made.

There is another point. To take only one among the many I shall illustrate the inequality that exists between the two sections. The House will consider that the private medical practitioners are as useful to the public as Government doctors are.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Even more.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Yes; but I put it very mildly. Private practitioners are as much public servants as the paid Government servants are. They have a right to demand as much sympathy from the Government as any other body of medical men can. You just consider for a moment; suppose there are half a dozen Government Advocates and two dozen Sirkar vakils at Ernakulam, then any client who comes need not pay any fees and need not even find out boarding and lodging. I would like to know from the legal members who are sitting here how many of them will get any thing in such a country. That is the position that private practitioners are now occupying. What do they ask? They are asking for no privilege. I have been working for 11 years in Trichur and I was not given an honorary post though I was offered a paid one. Why? Am I not fit? I am asking my own case. While there is a man volunteering to work in an honorary capacity why is

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the Cochin Government against such a proposal? That is the point. It is not fair simply to hear the argument without meeting them and simply to write an order that no honorary physician shall be appointed. It is nothing fair to you. You must find out a solution for the difficulty. That is the second point.

One more point I would impress upon this House. That is, my Hon'ble friend complimented me for my capacity for expressing what I thought. Generally medical men are not in a capacity to express what they want because this profession is a jealous mistress and she shall not allow people to feel with other things and he who does that will suffer the consequences and no one is a greater example than I myself. Yet the majority of them realising these and having very little time to perfect themselves and express their ideas by reading and other methods are perfecting their education in the subtle art of oratory and debate and would have to confine themselves to the treatment that they receive. If you treat the legal profession as you treat the medical profession andif you appoint two dozen Sirkar vakils then you will see that within 24 hours this whole building will be shaken by their howling and shouting. Therefore I take a serious responsibility. I fully feel that I alone represent here the interest of the voiceless medical men who are actually starving in the public streets. You can find M. B., B. S. and L. M. S. people in various villages who cannot even get 30 rupees a month. We do not ask you to provide for us. We would certainly ask that the institutions intended for the public and maintained with the public funds should give us facilities that are essential to successful medical men. A successful medical man is very useful to the public but an ignorant medical man is a source of danger to the society. That is the reason why from the point of viewof the society I say that every facility should be given to the medical practitioners who are willing to work, not as basin-carriers and bottle-fetchers.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Sir, this question has been engaging the attention of the Government from a long time. Originally the candidates who used to come into the hospitals came not with the idea of working as honorary men but as volunteers to step in to the first vacancy that would be available in the department. And I do not blame them for that. A real start regarding the appointment of honorary men was made only in the beginning of this year and an honorary man took charge at Narakkal and also at Ayyampilly Dispensaries along with the medical officers there. Half a dozen honorary men are working in the General Hospital and four are working at Trichur. All

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these men are now turning out very good work and the idea of the Government at present is, after watching the result a little longer, gradually to entrust individual institutions to these people who belong to their villages and also in some of the hospitals in the State (*Hear, hear.*) So the policy of the Government is just the same as that of the Hon'ble Mover of the motion.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—As I said we must be satisfied with the crumbs that fall from the table. I only wanted to bring these facts to the notice of the Government. I beg to withdraw the motion.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 5.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,800 for Rural Dispensaries by Re. 1.*

ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തിൽ എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം വെളിവായി പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഈ വിഷയം ഞാൻ കൌൺസിലിൽ പറഞ്ഞു തുടങ്ങിയിട്ട് ര കൊല്ലത്തോളമായി. ഞാൻ മെമ്പറായതു മുതൽ പറഞ്ഞുവരുന്നുണ്ട്. അന്നെല്ലാം ഒരു ഗ്രാമീണ വൈദ്യശാല അവിടെ വച്ചുകിട്ടണമെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിരുന്നതു്. എന്നാൽ ഇപ്പോൾ ആ മോഹം വിട്ടു. ഏതു രീതിയിലെങ്കിലും വൈദ്യസഹായം അവിടത്തുകാക്കു നല്കുവാൻ സാധിച്ചുമോ എന്നറിയാനേ ഞാനിപ്പോൾ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നുള്ളു. ന്യ നാഴിക നീളമുള്ള ഒരു റോഡ് ചേലക്കരയ്ക്കും പഴയന്നൂക്കും മദ്ധ്യേ കിടക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ഈ റോഡിൽനിന്നും അധികം ദൂരത്തല്ലാ ഇളനാടു് സ്ഥിതി ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു സ്ഥലം കൊച്ചിരാജ്യത്തുണ്ടെന്നു് നികുതി പിരിവിനു് അവിടെ ചെല്ലാറുള്ള റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടുകാക്കു മാത്രമേ അറിവുണ്ടാകയുള്ളു. ബാക്കി ഒരാൾക്കും ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു സ്ഥലമുള്ളതായി അറിവുണ്ടോ എന്നതന്നെ സംശയമാണ്. ഈ സ്ഥലത്തേയ്ക്കു് ഇപ്പോൾ ഒരു റോഡു് വെട്ടിത്തുടങ്ങിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. ന്യ കൊല്ലങ്ങൾക്കു മുമ്പാണ് ഈ പണി ആരംഭിച്ചതു്. ഇപ്പോൾ കഷ്ടിച്ചു ൽ നാഴിക നീളം ചെന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഈ കഴിഞ്ഞ കൌൺസിലിലും ഞാൻ ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി സംസാരിച്ചു. ഇത്ര ധൃതിയിലാണ് നാട്ടുകാക്കു വേണ്ടിയുള്ള കാര്യങ്ങൾ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. അവിടെ മലമ്പനി ധാരാളം ഉണ്ടു്. അതിന്റെ നിവാരണാർത്ഥം ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് പലതും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഒരു ആസ്പത്രി അവിടെ സ്ഥാപിച്ചുകിട്ടണമെന്നായിരുന്ന ആദികാലങ്ങളിലാവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിരുതു്. അതനുവദിക്കയുണ്ടായില്ല. നമ്മുടെ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് അവിടേക്കു ഒരു ഡാക്ടരെ കിട്ടാനില്ലെന്നായിരുന്ന അന്നു് അതിനു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു പറഞ്ഞ ന്യായം. കൊച്ചിരാജ്യത്തു് ആ സ്ഥലത്തേക്കു പോകാൻ ഒരാളില്ലാതെ പോയിയെന്നോ? കഷ്ടം! മലയുടെ മുകളിലാണെന്നുപറഞ്ഞാലും

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ഉദ്യോഗം കിട്ടുമെന്നറിഞ്ഞാൽ പോകാൻ ആളുകളുണ്ടാകും. ഇളനാട്ടിൽ വെറും മലയല്ല. അവിടെ ജനങ്ങൾ ധാരാളമുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ടാണ് അവിടെ ഒരാസ്പത്രി വേണമെന്നുപറഞ്ഞതു്. മറ്റൊരവസരത്തിൽ മലമ്പനിയുടെ കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി പറഞ്ഞപ്പോൾ കുറെ കുപ്പിനി അയച്ചുകൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഇതു് അവിടത്തെ സ്കൂൾമാസ്റ്റർമാർ, തപാൽക്കാർ, അഞ്ചൽക്കാർ, പഞ്ചായത്തുകാർ ഇവരുടെ അടുക്കലാണ് കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളതു് എന്നെല്ലാം പറഞ്ഞു. ഇതിൽനിന്നുള്ള വരവു് സർക്കാരിലേക്കാണെങ്കിലും, ഇതിന്റെ ഫലത്തെപ്പറ്റി ഒന്നും പറയാതിരിക്കയാണു നല്ലതു്. അവിടേക്കു ഇപ്പോൾ ഒരു റോഡുവെട്ടാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥിതിക്കു് ഒരു റൂറൽ ഡിസ്പെൻസറിക്കു കൂടിയുള്ള മാർഗ്ഗം ഉണ്ടാക്കിതന്നാൽ നന്നു്. അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ചേലക്കര ഡാക്ടർ തന്റെ ജോലിക്കു അസൌകര്യമില്ലാത്തവിധത്തിൽ ഒരാഴ്ചയിൽ രണ്ടുദിവസമെങ്കിലും അവിടെ വന്നുപോകുവാൻ ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്താലും മതി. അങ്ങിനെയായാൽ കഷ്ടിച്ചു് ഒരു ഡാക്ടർ എങ്കിലും വരുന്നുണ്ടെല്ലോ എന്നുള്ള സമാധാനം നാട്ടുകാക്കുണ്ടാകും. ഈ ദിവസത്തിലൊരിക്കൽ ബീറിനു വരുന്ന കാൺസ്റ്റബിളിനെയെന്നപോലെ ഒരു ഡാക്ടരേയും കാണുവാനെങ്കിലും ഈ ഏർപ്പാടു മൂലം ആ നാട്ടുകാക്കു ഭാഗ്യമുണ്ടാകുമല്ലൊ എന്നാണെന്റെ സമാധാനം. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ചീഫ് മെഡിക്കലാഫീസർ ദയവായി ഒരു ഡാക്ടരെ ആഴ്ചയിൽ രണ്ടുതവണയെങ്കിലും അങ്ങോട്ടയയ്ക്കുമോ എന്നു ചോദിപ്പാനാണ് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

ഡാക്ടർ ഡി. രാഘവേന്ദ്രറാവു്.—കഴിഞ്ഞ കൊല്ലം ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെമ്പർ ഇതേ പ്രമേയം തന്നെ ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. അതനുസരിച്ചു് ചേലക്കര റൂറൽ ഡിസ്പെൻസറിയ്ക്കു് നൂറു രൂപയിൽ കൂടുതലായി കുപ്പിനി അയച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതു് എല്ലാം ഈ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിലുള്ള ആളുകളുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിനുവേണ്ടി അയച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതാണു്. ഇപ്പോൾ അവിടെ പ്രത്യേകമായി ഒരു റൂറൽ ഡിസ്പെൻസറി തുടങ്ങുവാൻ പ്രയാസമാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ചേലക്കര റൂറൽ ഡിസ്പെൻസറിയിൽ ഉള്ള ഡാക്ടരെ ഇളനാട്ടിലേയ്ക്കു് അയയ്ക്കുവാനായിട്ടു് ആലോചിച്ചു് അതിലേയ്ക്കു് ശവമ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും കഴിയുന്ന ഏർപ്പാടുകൾചെയ്യാം.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി കെ. നായർ.—മതി. ഈ മറുപടികൊണ്ടു് എനിയ്ക്കു തൃപ്തിയായി. ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ പിൻവലിയ്ക്കുന്നു.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 6.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,800 for Rural Dispensaries by Re. 1.*

Sir, this motion is tabled to discuss about the further improvements of the rural dispensaries. It is after great trouble

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that we were able to make the Government recognise the usefulness of rural dispensaries. Believing as they do that only paid doctors will do the work, the Government could not first believe the usefulness of the institution. But surely I am glad to note that the Government have themselves recognised the usefulness of such institutions and they have been lately increasing their number. I quite understand that it is very difficult to meet all the requirements of the dispensaries. Most probably the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer might have got a petition from them, a kind of memorandum, containing a number of requests. Although it may be very difficult to meet all of them I want the Government to realise that they must, as far as possible, with the funds available, try to improve these institutions and if it is not asking for too much, at least these institutions must be upon the same status as the corresponding institutions in British India, so far as the allotment is concerned. I believe they get a little more in British India than is given in the State.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—They get Rs. 600 for medicine and Rs. 35 to 50 as their pay.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What is the amount paid here?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Rs. 30 for medicine and Rs. 30 as pay. In British India Rs. 600, is given for graduates and Rs. 360 for L. M. Ps.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Almost all are graduates there.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Here almost all are L. M. Ps. There is another thing worthy of consideration on the part of the Government. It would be very difficult especially for these dispensaries to get Government buildings. But such dispensaries should be established in good buildings. I may suggest that reasonable funds may be advanced to them which should be recoverable within a certain period. I think there are two or three people willing to work on such a system. And the only other suggestion I would bring to the notice of the Government is that wherever possible it would be very convenient to the public to have a nurse with the combined qualifications of a compounder and a mid-wife. It may not be possible to appoint a separate compounder and a separate mid-wife but a person having these two qualifications combined may be appointed. It is to bring out these points that I have tabled this motion. I do not move the motion.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 7.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,000 for Central Ayurvedic Hospital by Re. 1.*

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Sir, I have tabled this motion to ascertain certain information regarding the Central Ayurvedic Hospital; whether the Government has decided upon the location of it, the staff they propose to employ; the number of beds for which they are making provision and similar things. May I know whether the Government has decided upon the scheme and whether they have worked out the details and if so will they be kind enough to enlighten us on these points?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—It has been decided to start the Hospital at Trichur. No details have been worked out. The details will be worked out in a short time.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know the nature of the Hospital proposed to be started?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It will be with a few beds.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What we would like to know is whether it is only a hospital or whether there will be any teaching in addition to that, so that the Ayurvedic physicians may be examined by somebody. Now there are a certain class of people who call themselves Vaidyans carrying with them certain pills, etc. It is an insult to the Ayurvedic system. I have a great sympathy for the Ayurvedic system. These so called Vaidyans have become a perfect source of danger to the public and they are also an insult to the real Ayurvedic physicians. Therefore what we would like to know is whether this hospital will teach and give certificates of efficiency.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—These people not only take some pills but they also take some other Allopathic medicines and at the same time pretend that they are Ayurvedic medicines. They take these wherever they go and I had occasion to know this.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know who is working out the details? Is the Government going to do it in consultation with some Ayurvedic physicians or the Chief Medical Officer is going to do it himself?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Nothing has yet been settled.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The difficulty is whether it will be under the Panchayat Registrar or the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer. The Ayurvedic dispensaries are now under the Panchayats. The idea will be to connect these smaller institutions with a central institution. Therefore we want to know whether the whole would be under the Chief Medical Officer or the whole would be under the Panchayat Registrar.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Before establishing this, will the Government be pleased to take advice from some members of the

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medical profession? Will they take them into confidence and consult with them?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Nothing has been decided as to the *modus operandi* of the institution. Only a lump provision has been made. All these details have to be gone into. I think we will be doing it immediately after the Budget meeting is over.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—A lump provision is asked for. We have to vote it. We are asking for what purpose you are going to spend this money. Certain suggestions have been made in this House and a resolution was carried, I think four or five years ago. But that is absolutely different from what you are going to do now. We are anxious to know whether you are going to make use of the money in such a way as to meet our suggestion and our requirements as suggested in the passed resolution or are you simply going to distribute this money as salaries to a few Vaidyans and also to get a few jars of *Kashayams* and finish the whole thing.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The idea is to start a regular hospital. That is the reason why the question was referred to the Chief Medical Officer instead of to the Registrar of Panchayats. The Chief Medical Officer would know better how to work the hospital on scientific lines and so as not to clash with the aims of Ayurvedic system and its methods. What we aim is to have the advantage of the combination of both the scientific methods of the Allopathic system and the Ayurvedic system of treatment.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to have a Board of Ayurvedic doctors and discuss with them the details before they begin to work out the actuals?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We have no objection. We will note all the suggestions and will try to do the best and that as efficiently as possible.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—പഞ്ചായത്തു രജിസ്ട്രാക്കും സി. എം. ഓ-വിനും ആയുർവേദത്തെപ്പറ്റി എന്തെങ്കിലുമറിയാമോ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not say that he knows much. But we have not fixed the details. Only when we go to the minute details and the working of the hospital will any further expert opinion be required. At this stage the opinion of the Chief Medical Officer is amply enough.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—We were told some years ago that a nursing home was to be constructed and an allotment of Rs. 35,000 was demanded. But it was converted into three rooms for the private use of the doctors in the General Hospital and we, including the Deputy President, passed a vote of censure on the Government.

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മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ—കൊച്ചി രാജ്യത്തു" ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ വളരെ വൈദഗ്ധ്യമുള്ള ആളുകൾ ഉള്ളതായിട്ട് ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനു് അറിവുണ്ടോ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—This is a very complicated and very old question. Government have felt great difficulty in approaching them and the difficulty was with regard to the terms on which these learned Vaidyans are willing to be entertained. Under these circumstances to expedite matters we had to take up the matter with the Chief Medical Officer and he was asked to offer advice. When it comes to further details one well versed in the Ayurvedic system of treatment will have to be consulted. But who that should be and on what terms he will be entertained—all these are details to be gone into yet. We will see Government would do and I think should do that, when the hospital is constructed it will suit the methods of the Ayurvedic treatment best and will not be a mere duplication of the existing Allopathic hospitals.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Have the Government any idea to give instruction?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—No, no. At present the idea is only to have a hospital.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I therefore formally move the motion. My object in doing so is to request the Government to have a definite scheme which should be decided in consultation with some competent men.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It will be decided only with consultation of the greatest experts on the subjects.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I may make one suggestion. It would be a very difficult question for the Government to decide who should be in charge of the hospital and who should have the management. May I make a proposal to hand it over to a Board consisting of the Chief Medical Officer, the Panchayat Registrar, two or three Ayurvedic physicians and one or two English doctors who have genuine sympathy with the system of the Ayurvedic treatment? It is to do this and to enable other Hon'ble Members to place their suggestions before this House that I move this motion.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—ആയുർവ്വേദത്തിന്റെ കാര്യം ചീഫ് മെഡിക്കലാഫീസരെ ഒരിക്കലും ഏല്പിക്കുവാൻപാടില്ലെന്നാണു് ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു്. ഇതിനുമുമ്പു് അദ്ദേഹം ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള പ്രസംഗങ്ങളിൽനിന്നു് അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു് ആയുർവ്വേദത്തിൽ തീരെ വിശ്വാസമില്ലെന്നു തെളിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്. പഞ്ചായത്തു രജിസ്ട്രാക്കും ഇതിൽ പരിജ്ഞാനമില്ല. സെൻട്രൽ ആയുർവ്വേദിക്കു് ആസ്പത്രിയെന്നും പറഞ്ഞു് പണം ചെലവു ചെയ്യുകൊണ്ടു് ജനങ്ങൾക്കു് ഒരു പ്രയോജനവും ഉണ്ടാകയില്ല. ആദ്യം സ്കീം തയ്യാറാക്കണം ഒരു സ്കീമു

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മില്ലാതെ ഗവ്മെൻറ് പണം ചിലവാക്കുവാൻ ഒരുമ്പെടുന്നതു് അത്ഭുതകരമാണു്. ഇതിലേയ്ക്കു് സ്കീമുണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ തക്ക പരിജ്ഞാനമുള്ളവർ കൊച്ചിയിലുണ്ടു്. ഒരുത്തനെ നമുക്കെല്ലാം അറിയാം. പേരു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല. ആയുർവ്വേദ ആസ്പത്രിയ്ക്കു സ്കീമുണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ ചീഫ് മെഡിക്കൽ ആഫീസരെ ഏല്പിയ്ക്കുന്നതു് കുറുക്കന്റെ കയ്യിൽ കോഴിയെ വളർത്തുവാൻ കൊടുക്കുന്നതുപോലെയാണു്. (*Hear, hear*) ഗവ്മെൻറ് ആദ്യം ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു് ഒരു ശരിയായ സ്കീം ഉണ്ടാക്കുകയാണു്. അതു ചെയ്യാതെ പണം ചിലവാക്കുവാൻ തുടങ്ങരുതു്.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, this question was brought to the notice of this House some four or five years ago. Then the object was to demand from the Government an institution at an expenditure of not less than Rs: 75,000 as calculated at the time with full equipments and with facilities for necessary instruction and even for manufacturing medicines and a garden, so that this central institution may supply the required quantity of drugs to the various dispensaries under the Panchayat. That was the idea then; and not simply to start an isolated institution in the Cochin State. The idea was to connect the several dispensaries with the central institution and to make it a complete department by itself. That was the object that prompted this Council to bring forward a motion some six years ago. Remarkably enough Rs. 10,000 is now granted. What are the Government going to do with this ten thousand rupees? They have no plan. The money is demanded but no plan is forthcoming. Even with this Rs. 10,000 I fail to see what they can do. You cannot have a good institution, a good hospital with Rs. 10,000. You will have to rent a building. The only purpose it would serve is to distribute a few hundreds of rupees among a few Vaidyans who will come there and sit at a certain time to distribute some medicines. It seems to me that on account of the financial stringency it would be better to wait and do it afterwards on a proper scale so that this may be a central institution to look after the dispensaries and also to give instruction and examine the candidates who profess to know this subject so that the public may know that they can entrust themselves in the hands of some of these dangerous Vaidyans.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, six years ago I had occasion to bring a resolution for the establishment of an Ayurvedic Hospital, an institution for training physicians, a garden to be attached to the hospital and suggested to locate these at Anappara. The then President then said that Anappara is reserved for the College. But since the College is to be located here and if

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there is sufficient space for a hospital, medical institution and a garden they may be located there without much loss to the Government.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—പതിനായിരം രൂപാ ആയുർവ്വേദ ആസ്പത്രിയ്ക്കുവേണ്ടി നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു കണ്ടപ്പോൾ അതു് പഞ്ചായത്തു വൈദ്യശാലകളുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിനായിരിയ്ക്കുമെന്നാണു് ഞാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചതു്. പഞ്ചായത്തു വൈദ്യശാലകളുടെ ഇന്നത്തെ നടത്തിപ്പു സമ്പ്രദായം ശരിയായ വിധത്തിൽ ധരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് എന്നു് ഞാൻ സംശയിയ്ക്കുന്നു. ഈ വിഷയം സംബന്ധിച്ചു് ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് നല്ലവണ്ണമുള്ള മറുപടികൊടുക്കണം എന്റെ സംശയത്തെ ബലപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതുമുണ്ടു്. ന്യായ ഉരുപ്പിക മാത്രമാണു് ഓരോ വൈദ്യശാലയ്ക്കും പ്രതിവർഷം അനുവദിച്ചു കൊടുക്കുന്ന സംഖ്യ. വൈദ്യന്റേയും പരിചാരകന്റേയും ശമ്പളം, മറ്റു ചിലവുകൾ എന്നിവ നീക്കിയാൽ മാസത്തിൽ ഫ ഉ ഉരുപ്പികയിലധികം മരുന്നുകൾക്കു് കിട്ടുമോണ്ടോ എന്നു് സംശയമാണു്. ഈ മരുന്നുകൾതന്നെയും കേരളീയ ആയുർവ്വേദ ഔഷധശാലയിൽനിന്നും വാങ്ങണമെന്നു് നിർബ്ബന്ധമുണ്ടു്. മരുന്നു വ്യാപാരവിഷയത്തിൽ ധനസമ്പാദനാർത്ഥം കച്ചവടം ചെയ്യുന്ന മരുന്നുവ്യാപാരികളെ അപേക്ഷിച്ചു് ഒരു വിധത്തിലും വ്യത്യാസപ്പെട്ടവരല്ല പ്രസ്തുത വൈദ്യശാലാ പ്രവർത്തകന്മാർ. ദിവസത്തിൽ വൃ ണ. മാത്രം മരുന്നിനുള്ള ഒരു വൈദ്യശാലിയിൽ രോഗികൾക്കു കൊടുക്കുവാൻ കിട്ടുന്ന മരുന്നു് എത്രമുക്കുമാണെന്നു് ഇപ്പോൾ അന്വേഷിച്ചുകൂടയോ? അതിനുശേഷം വൈദ്യശാല തുറക്കുമ്പോഴേയ്ക്കുംതന്നെ തീരുകയും ചെയ്യും. ഈ നിലയ്ക്കു് എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു മാറ്റം ഉണ്ടാക്കുമെങ്കിൽ ഉൾനാട്ടിലെ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു് അതൊരു വലിയ രക്ഷയാകും. ആശുപത്രി തുറന്നു് രണ്ടു മണിക്കൂറിനകം വൃണത്തിന്റെ മരുന്നും തീരും. പിന്നെ ചെല്ലുന്നവർക്കു് മരുന്നില്ലാതെ വരുന്നു. ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിൽനിന്നുതന്നെ ഒരു ആശുപത്രി വച്ചു് അവിടെ ഔഷധങ്ങളുണ്ടാക്കി ഈ പഞ്ചായത്തു വൈദ്യശാലകൾക്കു് എല്ലാം ഔഷധങ്ങൾ അയച്ചുകൊടുത്തു് ആ വൈദ്യശാലകളുടെ കഷ്ടകാലം നീക്കുവാനാണു് ഈ പതിനായിരം രൂപാ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ചേർത്തിട്ടുള്ളതെന്നാണു് ഞാൻ അതു് കണ്ടപ്പോൾ വിശ്വസിച്ചതു്. പഞ്ചായത്തു വൈദ്യശാലകളുടെ ശോചനീയമായ നിലയെ കണ്ടറിയാനിടവന്നവരെയും, എന്റെ ഈ വിശ്വാസം സ്ഥാനത്താണെന്നു സമ്മതിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യും. പഴയന്നൂരിൽ ഉള്ള പഞ്ചായത്തു വൈദ്യശാലയിൽ ചെന്നു നോക്കിയാൽ അവിടെ ഒരു വൈദ്യനും ഒരു ശിഷ്യനുമുണ്ടു് പെട്ടികളും കുറെ ഭരണികളും ഉള്ളതായിക്കാണാം. ഇതുപോലെതന്നെ ഏതു വൈദ്യശാലകളിൽ ചെന്നു നോക്കിയാലും വെറും ഭരണികളും പെട്ടികളും മാത്ര

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മേ കാണുകയുള്ളൂ. മരുന്നുകളെല്ലാം നേരത്തെ തീർന്നുപോയിരിയ്ക്കും. ആവശ്യമുള്ളിടത്തോളം മരുന്നു അനുവദിയ്ക്കുന്നില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടാണു് ഈ നില വന്നുചേരുന്നതു". രോഗികൾക്കാവശ്യമുള്ളിടത്തോളം മരുന്നു് വൈദ്യശാലകൾക്കു് അനുവദിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുവാൻ ഈ സമ്പ്രദായം സഹകരിയ്ക്കുന്നതാകയാൽ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ചിലവിൽ അത്രയധികമൊന്നും കൂട്ടുകയുമില്ല. നവമ്മെണ്ടു് കൂച്ചുവടക്കാരാകാതിരിയ്ക്കയേ വേണ്ടു. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിൽനിന്നും ഈ മരുന്നുകളെല്ലാമുണ്ടാക്കി ഓരോ വൈദ്യശാലകൾക്കും അയച്ചു കൊടുത്താൽ വലിയ ഉപകാരമായിരിയ്ക്കും. നാട്ടുമുറങ്ങളിൽ ഉള്ളവർക്കു് ഈ വൃണമയുടെ മരുന്നുകൊണ്ടു് ആവശ്യം നിറവേറുന്നില്ല. ഇരുന്നൂറോ നാന്നൂറോ ഉറുപ്പികയ്ക്കു് ഇന്നു് വാങ്ങുന്ന മരുന്നിനു് നൂറോ ഇരുന്നൂറോ ഉറുപ്പികയിലധികം ചിലവു വേണ്ടിവരികയില്ല. അതായതു് ഇപ്പോൾ ചിലവു ചെയ്യുന്ന സംഖ്യകൊണ്ടു് ഇപ്പോൾ കിട്ടുന്നതിലും ഇരട്ടി മരുന്നെങ്കിലും നമുക്കുണ്ടാക്കാൻ കഴിയും. ചിലവു് അല്പം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുടിയും ചെയ്താൽ ഉൾനാടുകളിലെ ആയുർവ്വേദ വൈദ്യസഹായം തൃപ്തികരവുമായിക്കൊള്ളും. അതുകൊണ്ടു് മരുന്നുകളുണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ തക്കതായ ആളെ നിശ്ചയിച്ചു" ഈ ഔഷധങ്ങൾ മുഴുവൻ സെൻട്രൽ ആയുർവ്വേദ ആശുപത്രിയിൽ ഉണ്ടാക്കി ഇവിടെ നല്കുന്നതിനാൽ അതു് വളരെ ഉപകാരമായിരിയ്ക്കും. ആ ഉദ്ദേശം ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഈ പ്രതിനായിരം രൂപാ വേറെ വല്ലതിനും എടുത്തുകളയുന്നതാണു് നല്ലതു്. സംഖ്യ കൂട്ടുവാൻ നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടില്ലെങ്കിൽ തന്നെയും ഉള്ള സംഖ്യകൊണ്ടു് മരുന്നുകളുണ്ടാക്കി പഞ്ചായത്തു വൈദ്യശാലകൾക്കു് അയച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്നതായിരിയ്ക്കും നല്ലതെന്നാണു് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, I think there is a good deal of misunderstanding in the public mind about this matter. First of all this Rs. 10,000 is only a part provision. We have not yet got a definite scheme. We never meant that this amount would be sufficient. We thought that a beginning may be made next year. We will have to proceed with land acquisition. That will take about six months to complete. There is no necessity to provide more than Rs. 10,000. All that we want is a good big Ayurvedic State Hospital. Whatever amount is required for that will have to be voted by this House. We will have to begin with land acquisition itself. We have provided only Rs. 10,000 to make a beginning. Therefore I wish that the House will not be misguided simply because Rs. 10,000 alone is provided. The intention is not to make the Hospital a poor show,

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Secondly, Sir, I think there is a further misunderstanding about it. Because this amount accidentally found a place under the Medical Head, it is presumed by some members that we are going to have it solely under the Chief Medical Officer. That is not the intention at all. It so happened that the question was first taken up with the Chief Medical Officer. When we wanted some rough outline of it, we referred the matter to the Chief Medical Officer. It was on the basis of his suggestion that this Rs. 10,000 was tentatively provided. Because the correspondence was with the Chief Medical Officer, the amount came to be provided in the medical budget. It does not mean anything else. I do not understand why the House should distrust the Government in the matter of taking the best possible advice in the matter. We are only acceding to the wishes of the House in adopting the resolution and carrying it out. Why should there be the slightest distrust that it will not be done in the best light possible and in the best interest possible? There need be no anxiety in the matter and on that point at all. We will take expert opinion and we will decide who should be the Chief Officer in charge of it.

We shall also go into the question of how far the existing Ayurvedic Vaidyasalas should be connected with the proposed hospital. We shall in course of time have a small garden got opened. That object also Government has in view. But they have no idea of opening a school. I don't think there is any necessity for this cut motion. Only a beginning will be made in 1108. This amount willbe utilised in the best interest of the scheme.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government place the scheme before the House?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—In such small matters the House should show some indulgence and have confidence in the Government. If there is anything wrong in the scheme, it is open to the House to criticise it later.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—It is only our anxiety to help the Government that prompted us to come forward with this. If the Secretary had explained this before, it would have saved a lot of time.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Before land acquisition is proceeded with, whether there is sufficient land in Anappara may be considered. In that case Government will not have to spend much money.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes. That point also will be considered.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

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Motions Nos. 8 and 9.

As the mover was absent the following motions were considered withdrawn.

8. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,93,916 for Medical—total by Re. 1.*

(*To request the Government to open a Rural Dispensary in the south-western half of the Mulakunnathukavu constituency in the village of Chalakkal or Thozur*).

9. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,93,916 for Medical—total by Re. 1.*

(*To ascertain from the Government the details regarding the Central Ayurvedic Hospital*).

Motion No. 10.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,93,916 for Hospitals by Re. 1.*

Sir, I am moving this cut motion to request the Government that in the mofussil hospitals where there are two Doctors one should be a lady Doctor with special reference to Chittur. People of Chittur are backward in civilisation. It is with very great difficulty that women get persuaded to be examined by men. It is for that reason that I said a lady doctor should be appointed. There may be midwifery cases and it is very difficult to manage with male doctors. For a lady doctor we have to go to Madras. To avoid that, if a good lady doctor is appointed there, the women folk will be benefited.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Last year I brought it to the notice of the Diwan that a lady may be appointed to that post in the Chittur hospital. This year also I press for the same.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Sir, this motion was brought before this House last year, as also by a communication from the Hon'ble Deputy President. The difficulty of the department was paucity of lady doctors in the department to be deputed to that place. As it is, we have not got enough of lady doctors for the Maternity hospital at Trichur and the Women and Children Hospital at Mattancheri. It is not possible just at present, in view of the financial depression, for taking more hands. When there are vacancies hereafter in the department, instead of taking men, we shall be taking ladies. I should also say that lady doctors have been appointed to the hospitals of Kunnamkulam and Cranganur and the same will be extended to the other hospitals also in course of time.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Thank you.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 11.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 34,236, for Leper Asylum by Re. 1.*

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Sir, the Leper Asylum is now being managed by a benevolent institution and I am sure that it is properly managed. When we started the Asylum, we had 126 patients but now the number has gone to 283, as I find from an answer to an interpellation during these sittings. Each patient is paid per capita and in view of the fact that the medical allotment is not very ample, it seems to me from a layman's point of view, without any pretence whatever to expert knowledge in the department, I would suggest that admission to this hospital, may, at least, hereafter, be confined to bona-fide Cochin patients. I am informed that between 30 to 40 per cent of the patients there, hail from the adjoining States. I do not mean to say that charity should not be extended to them. The amount we are able to spend on that institution will be more properly spent in the best interests of leper patients who are bona fide Cochinnites. Our sister States are expected to do what they can for the patients that hail from those places. In as much as our contribution is per capita, per person, this restriction proposed by me may be kindly considered by Government.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Has any Cochin patient been refused admission for want of accommodation?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—No.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—May I know what is the practice in other places like British India and Travancore? Whether there is any restriction in those places also? Do they restrict admissions to bona fide Travancoreans and British subjects?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—There is not such a restriction. After all it is a humane institution. The Hon'ble Member for Trichur mentioned that 30 to 40 per cent are non-Cochinities. I may just give the correct figures. At present there are 291 inmates in the Leper Asylum of which 27 are Travancoreans and from British Malabar there are only 5. As regards Travancoreans they have been paying a certain amount and after the Asylum was transferred to Adoor we asked for a larger sum from them and the matter is under correspondence. They consent to pay Rs. 12 because there is depreciation of building, etc. We asked for Rs. 18 and we are corresponding with the Travancore Government. Originally it was only Rs. 12. Our men are admitted in the Travancore Asylum.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, I oppose the motion. I am afraid we have suffered more by the cry of Cochin for Cochinites (*hear, hear*) than we have gained. When the Hon'ble Member for Adoor asked whether there is any restriction in Chingelpet the answer given by the Chief Medical Officer was 'No'. I am sure that if this fact is reported in the 'Hindu' or

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other papers they will think twice before admitting any in future. I know as a matter of fact that a large number of our people have got themselves completely cured not only from Chingelpet but also from Calcutta and other places.

Same is the case with regard to admissions to the Colleges and getting employment in British service A Cochinite need not expect even a peon's post in the British service. We have a large number of educated people here who have no means of livelihood. As a matter of fact they can rub their shoulders with anybody and were getting some work outside. Now all the doors have been closed on account of this cry of 'Cochin for Cochintes'. I therefore beg this House to unanimously vote against this motion and set an example in this matter. We will not suffer in the long run. Not only that, we stand to gain by it. As a matter of fact I know that a large number of patients from Cochin go to and get cured from Madras hospitals. If you begin to make this discrimination here, those hospitals will shut their doors against us.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—In the light of the information supplied, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 12.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—I find a similar motion in the name of the Member for Cheruviruthi. He being an expert in this matter, I shall speak when that motion is taken up.

Hence the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,42,809 for Total—Medical by Re. 1.*

(*To discuss the feasibility of a change in the policy of the Administration of the Medical Department by the establishment of a Central General Hospital fully equipped, by reducing the number of civil hospitals and increasing the number of dispensaries, and also by limiting the number of non-Cochinite patients both as in-patients and as out-patients in our Medical Institutions.*)

Motion No. 13.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—On a point of information. Whether tenders were called for the supply of provisions to the General Hospital here and the hospital at Trichur and whether they were given to the lowest tenderer?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—What I meant was whether the person to whom the *karar* is given now was the one who had tendered. Had he tendered among other people?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes.

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Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Is it the same case with P. C. R. Works also? Was a tender called for?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Was that also given to somebody who had tendered for the work?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—In the light of the information I don't want to move,

Hence the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,42,809 for Medical by Re. 1.*

(*To bring to the notice of the Government the irregularity involved in not sticking to the principles of calling for tenders.*)

Motion No. 14.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I don't wish to move that.

Hence the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Dr. A. R. Menon:—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,42,809 for Medical by Re. 1.*

(*To discuss the mountingexpenditure in the Medical Department and to suggest ways and means to reduce it.*)

Motion No. 15.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,42,809 for Medical by Re. 1.*

The motion is to discuss the unsatisfactory method of distribution of work among the medical staff and to suggest better method of distribution so as to render the General Hospital more useful to the public. The only object is to bring to the notice of the Government that in any distribution as far as possible the idea should be to make specialists in the various departments. Now the work is distributed among three people. They are no better than we private practitioners. If a man has got an ear or nose trouble, the first question asked is to go to Madras or Bangalore. I have been told that these hospitals are much better than our General Hospital. I don't dispute that point. What I want is to make the General Hospital what it really should be. This is not now a General Hospital. This is a hospital which is manned by half a dozen general medical practitioners. There are no specialists. They become specialists after a long service. In the meantime a number of ears, noses and throats would have to be spoiled and one spoiled we cannot have another pair. It is, therefore, better to divide the work as in all other hospitals and also to prohibit a man in one department conducting cases of any other department. If you do that, this hospital will be more useful. It is only to suggest this that

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I have brought this motion. I would like to know what objections the Chief Medical Officer has in this matter.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—There is not the slightest objection. We have not got such specialists now. Therefore it is better to try to make them specialists by the fitter method of confining them to one department alone.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 16.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,42,809 for Medical by Re. 1.*

This is a very important question and I want the House to follow this seriously. The motion is to discuss the desirability of allowing a medical man to stand by and watch the post-mortem examination as a representative of the party concerned. Sir, this motion was brought to the notice of the House a few years ago and without giving a proper answer it was rejected. Lately I brought to the notice of the House the case of a person who was supposed to have been done to death by violence, but in the certificate he died of 'haemorrhage of the coronary artery.' It was quite possible that he was suffering from heart disease. There is no knowing what sort of certificate we sometimes get, and I fail to see why a medical man should be nervous while another medical man stands by and simply observes what is taking place without touching the body. It may act only as a sort of check. It will be an advantage to the medical man who performs the post-mortem examination. In this particular case it is very difficult to think, in spite of all the assurance, that the poor man died of haemorrhage of the coronary artery. There are various reasons. It is to the interests of the persons who perform the post-mortem examination I say that there should be somebody near by. It is to give complete satisfaction to the parties concerned that the post-mortem examination has to be reported correctly. I do not see any reason why any objection should be taken for such an innocent procedure. For the information of the House I may say that at the Coroner's inquest in England this is permitted. Representative medical men are allowed to stand by and watch the procedure so that there may not be any mistake or any suspicion on the part of the public that the post-mortem report is a cooked-up one.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—The existing rules do not prohibit any medical man from watching or standing by and there is not the slightest objection because it would take away the whole ground from the way in which sometimes our men are accused by the public (*Hear, hear*). It is in our interest and I would welcome such a suggestion.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

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Motion No. 17.

As the following motion was not moved it was considered withdrawn.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,42,809 for Medical by Re. 1.*

(*The general discontent in the Department resulting from the hasty action of the Chief Medical Officer.*)

Motion No. 18.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,42,809 for Medical by Re. 1.*

Sir, we have taken this as a party question and we are very anxious that the Government should allow honorary visitors to record their impressions of the working of these institutions in the visitors' books. This question was brought here before and there was such a hue and cry against the mentality of the non-officials to enter into the precincts of the hospitals. But by a curious fate they have introduced the same system in British India in two years. Therefore, I have got this authority of the British Government in thinking that it is to the interests of the public that the non-official visitors should be allowed to visit the hospitals as they are allowed to visit the Lunatic Asylum and the Jail, and similar institutions so that they may put their impression upon the visitors' book and the Government may understand these things. The Chief Medical Officer has got plenty of work in Ernakulam and occasionally takes a trip for inspection. But before he starts, every institution gets scent of that and begins work so that when he reaches there the work is very nice. It is impossible for him to watch all these things. There are cases coming to our notice where people are not in a position to bring them to the notice of the Head of the Department. When there are non-official visitors, these aggrieved parties may bring their grievances to their notice. I remember a case where a person prayed for water for 48 hours and the hospital refused to give him relief. It is only an isolated case. When we come to know that—suppose some of us are non-official visitors—we will be able to put this impression upon the visitors' book and the attention of the Diwan must inevitably be drawn to what is taking place there. To all honest men in the medical service, this must be welcome. To other people it might be an impertinent and insolent suggestion.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Sir, at present there are honorary non-official visitors nominated for visiting the Leper Asylum at Adoor and the Lunatic Asylum at Trichur and we have not got this system for the other hospitals.

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Dr. A. R. Menon.—I wanted dispensaries also.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—These are institutions intended for the public good and for public use. I do not see any objection for such a healthy action. Then unfair criticisms and criticisms based on incorrect information will not be unnecessarily laid on the heads of the Government medical men. This will be the best way of removing that and Government will consider the point.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

The House rose for lunch at 2 p. m. and met again at 3 p. m. with the Deputy President in the Chair.

Motion No. 19.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,42,809 for Medical by Re. 1.*

Sir, the object of this motion is to bring to the notice of the Government once again that there is no necessity to make foreign qualification a condition for the appointment of Civil Surgeons. I do not wish to speak on the subject at length because the subject had been before the House several times and even last year the House gave its decided opinion that this foreign qualification is not necessary for Civil Surgeon's post. This practice is not obtained either in Travancore or in British India. With these few words I move the motion standing in my name.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Sir, this question is engaging the attention of the Government and final orders on the matter are not yet passed.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—In the light of that assurance, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

The whole Demand was then put and carried.

(2). 16.—Medical—Cranganur—Rs. 5,038.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 5,038 under 16—Medical, Cranganur. I request the House may be pleased to vote this allotment.

Demand put and carried.

(3) 23—Sanitation, Conservancy and Vaccination—Rs. 89,323.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Sir, I rise to move for an allotment of Rs. 89,323, under 23—Sanitation, Conservancy and Vaccination. It will be seen that this is a new head during this Budget. During the several debates in this Council Hon'ble Members expressed the desire to start a separate Sanitary Department and the Government responsive to the wishes of the

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public, in spite of financial stringency and their original idea to put off the scheme till finances improve, sanctioned the separation of the Sanitary Department and accordingly ordered to separate it from the Medical. I request the House may be pleased to grant this allotment. The different items of expenditure under this head call for no explanation from me. The necessary details of the Department will be worked out by the new Chief Sanitary Officer and I am glad and I do hope that this real start will be of great help to the poor and ignorant people to minimise their sufferings and thus to increase their prosperity and thereby that of the State, and make them live in contentment. In modern days of civilization the test of a nation's civilization is decided more by the standard of sanitation than by anything else. The new Department will do a great amount of intensive propaganda work and several other sanitary works will be taken up. The public of the State will be receiving several useful directions from the Department and every Member of this House will have reason to be proud of the proposition. Public co-operation is necessary in this type of work and I hope that the Members of this House will individually render whatever help they can and give a lead to the masses in the right direction in a short time. During the year under review several sanitary works were carried out, such as the improvement of the town of Kunnamkulam. To prevent the epidemic of small-pox a number of additional vaccinators had been appointed. I am glad to state that the state of affairs is better now and it is hoped that with the introduction of compulsory vaccination before long we will be free from the ravages of the disease as to enable us to say that small-pox is a thing of the past and make the State free from this epidemic. With these few words, I request the House will be pleased to vote the allotment.

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Motion No. 1.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar:—Sir, *I move for the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 9,060 for Trichur Improvement works by Re. 1*—to bring to the notice of the Government the urgent necessity of appointing executive officers to the Municipalities of the State. Sir, the scope and work of our Municipalities have increased considerably and so far as Trichur is concerned you will find the income has gone up to nearly 2 lakhs a year and various public works are undertaken by the Municipality. It has been found increasingly difficult for the Chairman to cope with all these works. They are not full time men. Trichur has a busy Medical Practitioner like Dr. A. R. Menon, Ernakulam a busy lawyer, Mr. Sivarama Menon and Cochin a busy merchant as their Chairmen. You can see that it will be almost

impossible for them to supervise these works in detail. It is with that object and to relieve them of a portion of the work and with a view to give more efficiency to the working of these Municipalities that I propose the appointment of executive officers to them.

Deputy President.—We are now dealing with Sanitation. What are the functions of these executive officers? Has it anything to do with sanitation?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—One of the main object of the Municipality is to look after the sanitation of that locality and it is here that I propose to move this cut.

The Municipal Chairman has too much work now. If a reliable, honest and efficient executive officer, say of the grade of a Tahsildar or a little below that, is appointed to look after the details of the administratien it will be a great help to him.

Deputy President.—I wish to bring to the notice of the Hon'ble Member that we are dealing with sanitation. So whatever necessary for the improvement of sanitation may only be considered in the motion.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—This cut is included under Sanitation. Have the Government made any mistake in including it under Sanitation?

Deputy President.—The cut as it stands is included under Sanitation.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I am speaking to support my case for the appointment of an executive officer for the Municipality.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—By appointing an executive officer to a Municipality it is understood that certain functions are assigned to him. If we can discuss only on sanitation some difficulty will arise.

Deputy President.—The Secretary to the Council informs me that you can discuss. This cut was put under 'Sanitation' to give freedom to speak on all points.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, so that if an executive officer is appointed the work of the Municipal Chairman will be to lay down broad general policy of the working of the department. To take a concrete example the Municipal Chairman will decide whether a particular building is necessary for locating the Municipal Office. He will also decide the general features of it and leave it there. It must be the duty of the executive officer to check-measure the work, pay the bills, etc. It is to bring this fact to the notice of the Government that I have tabled this motion.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, I happen to be the only one in this House for the time being, who has got some experience of

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this. I do not know about Travancore, but in British India in all the major Municipalities there is an executive officer. I believe that there is a proposal to appoint such officers in second class Municipalities also. What I express is only my individual opinion and not the opinion of the Municipality as a whole. It is only in my individual capacity that I am saying what I am going to say. There is much in what my friend said, that the work of the Municipality has increased to an enormous extent and even after devoting 5 to 6 hours a day it will be very difficult to carry on the work to one's own satisfaction. There is no gainsaying the fact and the only way to give some relief to the Chairman is by appointing an executive officer. I myself know the difference between the work 7 years ago and now. When 7 years ago three hours' would be enough now he will have to work for 6 hours and there will be arrears of work. But the reason why the Municipalities are not anxious to allow an executive officer is, the executive officer will be appointed by the Government and he becomes a creature of the Government and has a tendency to defy the Municipal Chairman and the Council. Therefore, generally speaking, the Municipalities are averse to the appointment of an outsider, who instead of obeying the orders of the Chairman and the Council will dictate his orders and in all such disputes, the officer being appointed by the Government, the tendency of the Government will be to side with the officer and not with the Municipality. While it is a very good system that the executive work is entrusted to a full time officer it is very essential that the control exercised by the Municipal Council now should be retained. Therefore, the only way is to devise means by which we will get the benefit of an executive officer, without his being an old man sitting on our neck. This motion is tabled with the object of exciting a discussion upon the subject and also to know the position of the Government on this subject. But whatever may be your decision it must be of such a nature that we should have power by a vote of censure to have the executive officer removed, by the Government at least. Just as the Chairman could be removed by a vote of censure the officer must be liable to be removed. I honestly think that it will be a reform in the right direction. It will be to the interest of the rate-payers and it will be to the interest of the Municipality that such an officer is appointed. The officer who is going to be appointed must be certainly not less than the grade of a Tahsildar in pay and emoluments. But by proper management that amount can be saved. More than that amount is now wasted. That is the object. It is impossible conscientiously to come forward and say that every work has been check-measured and very well looked into even in Trichur where the

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councillors co-operate to a very great extent more than in any other Council, where the work has been simplified to a very great extent. That cannot be in all such cases. Therefore the move should be in the right direction. But that executive officer should not be placed in such a position as to enable him to defy the Municipality. That is another point to be considered by the Government along with the proposal. If you can devise a measure so much so that he can be removed by the Council themselves by a vote of censure—if that is acceptable, then I think this may be introduced.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—Sir, I rise to support the motion. As the Hon'ble Mover and the Hon'ble Member for Cheruviruthi have been putting the matter before the House, there is very great force in the proposal because of the fact that the Municipality Administration has reached a stage that it should be under an executive officer for the carrying out of the resolutions and proposals approved by the Council. At present the rate-payers are to depend entirely upon the spare time that the Municipal Councillors and the Chairman himself can devote to the subject and the rest is left to a few maistries and Sanitary Inspectors of not a very high order of status and cadre.

Again, there is the feeling amongst the citizens that their hard-earned money is not well spent. The revenues of the Municipality have been going up and it is a good round sum now. It is well worth the attention of everybody to see that it is well husbanded. Raising of money and more money will not be quite to the happiness of the people or to their welfare if proper execution of measures does not follow The Municipality is to sit and consider. The executive has much to do. It has to give effect to and pay particular direct attention to the carrying out of the wishes of thousands of people crystallised in the form of resolutions in the Council. Many things go by default, and no body can blame anybody; because nobody is paid for the work that he is expected to do, except these low-paid or comparatively ill-paid subordinates. It is high time that the Government and representatives of the people should pay particular attention to this matter, and see that the rate-payers get their money's worth for the money which they pay.

I am in general agreement with what the Hon'ble Member for Cheruviruthi, the Chairman of the Trichur Municipality, said, that the executive officer must not be a man to order the Chairman to do this thing or that thing. But he must at the same time be a person whose counsel will be respected by the Chairman and the Council, and he must have such weight by virtue of his position and attainments, that there should not be any

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clash. If any old man should not be appointed to sit on the neck or on the shoulders of the Council, that is a good observation, it must at the same time be a point that a man of immature age should not be appointed to hang on to be ordered about by the worthy Councillors or the eminent Chairman. Each must have independence of views and where a clash occurs —and clashes should inevitably occur—public opinion and views of the Government will come forward readily to solve the problem. So both the executive officer, the Council and its Chairman must work in harmony; and that harmony must always be for the welfare of the rate-payers whose interests both the Executive Officer, the Council and the Chairman are to look after. With these observations, I beg to support the motion and recommend it to the House, that the appointing of Executive Officers to the Trichur, Ernakulam and Mattancheri Municipalities will be a step in the right direction. (*Hear, hear*)·

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Sir, it is presumed that the appointment of an executive officer to Municipalities is more or less of the same type as the executive officer known as the Commissioner of Municipal Cor-poration in British.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Yes.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—If that is so, it means that the financial burden involved on these Municipalities has to be considered and in these days of stress it has to be well thought of before a decision is made.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—I hope the Municipality will meet the expenses.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—In British, I think a portion of the amount is given by the Government—2/3 by the Government and 1/3 by the Municipality. I believe in the case of executive officers also, a substantial amount is contributed by the Government and the rest by the Municipality.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—As it is, there is a good deal to be done in the Municipalities under Sanitation, and barring Trichur, where the Chairman being a Medical man himself, the other Municipalities are practically without an Executive Health Officer also. As things are at present, affairs are managed by a few Sanitary Inspectors and nothing very much can be done under the present circumstances without additional expenditure. These Municipalities certainly deserve Health Officers to carry on a good deal of the Sanitary work as well as preventive work. So until and unless finances of the Municipalities improve, I am afraid that this useful reform cannot be introduced.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—On a point of information, Sir, may I know whether the jurisdiction of the new Sanitary Officer would extend to Municipalities also?

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Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.— Sir, I think the only difference between the Government and the Members on this side of the House is on the question of finance. I don't think so far as the Municipalities are concerned their finances are dwindling. If at all, it is only on the increase. The most competent man here to speak on the subject is the Hon'ble Member for Cheruviruthi who has in unequivocal terms stated the desirability of such a step. What induced me to bring this motion in this House is the sight of the pitiable condition of the self-same gentleman. Half a dozen Sanitary Inspectors waiting for orders, the Municipal Manager to get signature for some urgent orders, a dozen contractors saying, "my work must be check-measured to-day; If you do not do that I will be put to various difficulties", a few friends and a large number of patients and this gentleman without knowing as to what he should do—this is the sight that I have seen many a time in his house. In fact I had to come away several times without speaking to him. I am very glad that the Hon'ble Member has himself said that it is highly necessary and so far as the Trichur Municipality is concerned, since the income is going up by leaps and bounds, I don't think the question of finance will arise at all.

A word more before I close. My idea about the powers of an executive officer is this. He should have no powers inconsistent with the spirit of the Municipal Regulation. He should be only an officer to carry out the wishes of the Municipal Council including the Chairman. These details can be decided afterwards. If the Government is prepared to accept the principle of it and is prepared to consider this question at an early date I do not want to press this motion to a division. Otherwise I should like to ask the Hon'ble Members of this House to vote for this motion and thereby bring to the notice of the Government that there is almost urgent necessity of introducing this reform in the Municipal aministration. May I know whether the Government is prepared to consider it at an early date and take up this question in right earnest?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—It will be considered.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—In the light of that assurance, I beg leave of the House to withraw the motion.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 2.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 30,290 for Sanitation Works-Proper, by Re. 1.*

Sir, the object of this cut motion is to discuss the advisability of having Second Class Municipalities in the State as in Mysore. The reason that prompted me to bring this motion to the House is that during the discussion of the Standing Finance

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Committee when I went through the list, I found Rs. 1,000, Rs. 1,500, items and items of large sums which are purported to be spent by Panchayats, been made use of by smaller towns. Strictly speaking this expenditure must be met by the people living in the towns by Municipal rates. The explanation given to me was that the people themselves are not very anxious to have a Municipality in those towns because the Municipality means a certain imposition upon the people and of all the impositions the greatest is the toll. If you want to remove the buffalo from the town to the paddy fields, as you are doing at Chittur which is an agricultural village and glorified as a town, you have to pay tolls.

The difficulty is that if you are going to have a municipality an ordinary municipality in the sense of Trichur, Ernakulam or Mattancheri, the expenditure involved is much high. If you want to give them the amenities of town life it is essential that there should be some sort of arrangement like a municipality. In Mysore, they have divided the municipalities into two classes and I believe the same is the case in Travancore also where the second class municipalities are nothing more than a glorified Panchayat, bigger than what is a Panchayat to the rural areas, but what is the Panchayat to the rural areas is the second class municipality to the urban area. That is the point principally involved.

In these municipalities the roads will be under the control of the Government. There will be no toll and the municipality will have revenues only from professional tax, house tax, and scavenging fees and it will be something better than a Sanitary Board, with a small Council and an elected Chairman. So far as Overseers and Sanitary Inspectors are concerned, it may be necessary to appoint one Sanitary Inspector and two or three Maistries. But so far as the Overseer is concerned a single man may be appointed for three or four Municipalities in groups.

If you introduce this system, nearly 7 or 8 towns come under this second class Municipalities. For example, Trippunittura will be one, Chittur will be another, then, Tattamangalam—instead of keeping these two together with 3 miles length of road and collecting the whole rate and spending 28 thousand rupees on the officers out of a total revenue of 48 thousand. By this arrangement Chittur and Tattamangalam will be split into two. There will be one for Nemmara, another for Irinjalakkuda another for Chalakkudi, one for Vadakkancheri, another for Kunnamkulam and another for Trippunittura. These are the eight in my mind now. There may be others. All these smaller Municipalities may be constituted, so that the people may get

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the amenities of municipal life without incurring the expenditure which other Municipalities are incurring. It is to ascertain the views of the House on this matter that I have tabled this motion. Either they may draft a Bill or if they like it, we will draft a Bill.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Sir, when a resolution for the separation of Sanitary Department came before this House and it was referred to me, I mentioned that the towns, Trippunittura, Irinjalakkuda, Kunnamkulam, Nemmara, Vadakkancheri, Cranganur and Chalakkudi, ought to be constituted into small urban Municipalities, like the major unions in British India. Government had to put off the scheme for purposes of financial stringency. Subsequent to that there was a proposal to constitute municipalities in Irinjalakkuda and Kunnamkulam alone, to start with. Then came the problem of public protest from the parts concerned with the result that there were contending parties, one set of people saying that Municipalities should not be introduced and another set saying that tney should be introduced, with the result that at Kunnamkulam the matter assumed serious proportions. Even to-day at Kunnamkulam large sums of money are being spent for the improvement of the town and Government have been spending large sums of money for its improvement in past years. If they are asked to shoulder a certain amount of responsibility, to there own good, they are not willing. Because of this difficulty and this trouble among the people and the protest against it, the matter was dropped. I dare say, the new Chief Sanitary Officer will review the whole scheme and will be forwarding his opinion about the sanitary requirements of these places to the Government and I dare say this subject will be brought before the notice of the Government.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—May I know whether in that proposal the toll was also included?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I am not quite sure.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Most probably it is this question of tolls that is objectionable to those localities. Sir, I do not wish to press the motion.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 3.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,826 for Establishment—Rural Sanitation by Re. 1.*

Sir, I have tabled this cut to draw the attention of the Government to the necessity of giving good drinking water at Vypeen and Ochanthuruthi. These two places form the southern end of the land of Vypeen which is to the north of the Cochin Harbour. On the western side of this narrow strip of

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land is the sea and on the eastern side the backwater. Further this strip of land is interspersed with marshy plots. It is extremely difficut to get good drinking water in this place. Government recognised the hardship of the people in getting good drinking water and dug certain wells in the locality. It is most regrettable to say that the water in these wells are not good. If the Government had been kind enough to consult the local men on the subject, this blunder could have been avoided, and the people would have been supplied with good drinking water. Of course it may not be advisable for me at this time when the economic depression is affecting the income and the Government is effecting retrenchments even where it is not necessary, to press upon the Government the necessityof supplying this place with Alwaye water. But I may say, that this is one of the urgent necessities which that locality requires. I may request the Government that hereafter when wells are dug in that locality it may be done in consultation with the local Village Panchayat or persons who live in the locality and who know well where good water is available. With these few remarks, I move the motion.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. പണമില്ലെന്നും മറ്റും പറഞ്ഞ് കുടിയ്യാൻ വെള്ളം കൊടുത്തില്ലെന്നു വന്നാൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് ജീവിക്കുവാൻ സാധിയ്യുകയില്ല. ഈ ഓച്ചന്തുരുത്തിലും, പ്രത്യേകിച്ച് വൈപ്പിലും ചെന്നു നോക്കിയാൽ അവിടെയുള്ള ജനങ്ങൾ ജീവിയ്യുന്നതുകണ്ട് അത്ഭുതപ്പെടേണ്ടിവരും. ഉപ്പുവെള്ളം കുടിച്ചാൽ ജനങ്ങൾ എങ്ങിനെ ജീവിയ്യും? അവിടെ വേനലായാലും, വർഷമായാലും ഉപ്പുവെള്ളമല്ലാതെ കിട്ടുകയില്ല. ഏതോ ആൾക്ക് ഒരു പ്രത്യേക സ്ഥലത്ത് ഒരു കിണർ വയ്യുണമെന്ന് നിർബ്ബന്ധമുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അയാൾ ആ നാട്ടിൽ വളരെ പ്രബലമുള്ളവനായിരുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് തമ്മെണ്ടു് അയാൾ പറഞ്ഞ സ്ഥലത്ത് കിണർ അനുവദിച്ചു. ഒരാൾ പറയുന്നതു് കേൾക്കുവാനല്ലാതെ ജനങ്ങൾ പറയുന്നതു് തവമ്മെണ്ടിനു് കേൾക്കുവാൻ മനസ്സില്ല. അതു് വളരെ കഷ്ടമാണു്. വൈപ്പു മുതലായ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ സാധുക്കളാണു് താമസിയ്യുന്നതു്. അതിനാൽ ഈ സാധുക്കൾക്കു് കുടിയ്യുവാൻ നല്ലവെള്ളം കൊടുക്കുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ പണമില്ലെന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ പോര. ഇപ്പോൾ ചെല്ലാനം മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങൾക്കു് വെള്ളംകൊണ്ടുപോയി അവിടത്തെ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു കൊടുത്തുവരുന്നതുപോലെ അത്യാവശ്യമായി ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കേണ്ട ഒരു സ്ഥലമാണു് വൈപ്പു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ ബലമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Sir, this proposal was brought before the notice of the Government and 6 wells were dug this

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year of which three are very satisfactory, and the other three that are located in the plot of land near Vypeen have not been satisfactory because the water is brackish especially during the summer months. I have myself been to the place half a dozen times to see the condition of the wells and there are just a few tanks there from which people have been drawing water. But due to communal differences subsequent to the unfortunate riots that took place in Kumbalanghy one of the men there, from whose tanks the poor Arayas and Valas used to draw drinking water denied this potable water to be taken by them. Because he was not allowing them to take drinking water from the tank and as this tank was his private property Government had to do something for these poor people. Hence it was that we located these wells near their houses. But again myself, the Chief Engineer and the Registrar of Panchayats went to the place, reconnoitered the whole area and came to the conclusion that the only solution to give them good drinking water was to take the water there by means of barges, erect a tank there and supply the water to the people by means of a pipe line. But it will not be possible to extend this as far as Palliport. The Sanitary Department may give any number of wells. But that will not improve matters. The water in these parts is filthy and these wells are made useless and converted to dust bins. Just the other day some wells were being completed. But they were made useless and rubbish was thrown in. Even in the well at Ayyampilly the school boys were using a very good well as a dust bin. The matter of giving pipe water is under consideration of the Government. The estimates are being prepared by the Engineering Department.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—I am very glad to hear that the question of supplying Alwaye water is under the consideration of the Government. I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 4.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Before moving the cut motion I would like to ask for some information. May I know how many first class vaccinators are there ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—At present there are 7.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Their pay ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Their pay is Rs. 25.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Is it the contemplation of the Government to improve their pay ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—If not, what is the reason ?

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Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—According to the present revision all the vaccinators will be of one grade *i. e.*, Rs. 25-5-50. Of course those persons who are getting the first grade salary will not get any increase.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—I don't move the motion.

Hence the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 518 for lump sum for revising pay—Vaccination by Re. 1.*

(*To ascertain from the Government the general line of revision proposed to be effected.*)

Motion No. 5.

As the following motion was not moved it was considered withdrawn.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.— *To reduce the total allotment on Vaccination by Re. 1.*

(*To discuss about the increment of pay of first class Vaccinators.*).

Motion No. 6.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—*To reduce the allotment on Vaccination—Total by Re. 1.*. Sir, I have tabled this motion to draw the attention of the Government to the extreme necessity for making vaccination compulsory in the State. I am very glad to find from this year's budget that the subjects of Sanitation, Conservancy and Vaccination are separated from the Medical Department and placed under an expert officer. I am also glad to find that the Government has allotted more money in these lines. Considering that the health of the nation is to be counted first and foremost by the Government any amount of money or energy spent in this line will never be a waste. Very recently we had the sorry spectacle of the havoc done to our country by small-pox in Trichur and other places. Many had to suffer and to lose their lives. We had also spent a good lot of money but it was all too late. But considering that 'prevention is better than cure' it is just and proper on the part of Government to find out some remedial measures against the repetition of this calamity. Though there may be differences of opinion on this subject, as is usual on all subjects, many civilised Governments have adopted the system of compulsory vaccination as a remedial measure. I do not claim to be very competent to speak on the merits or demerits of vaccination when there are doctor members in this Council. Therefore I hope they will throw more light on this subject. I therefore move this cut for the acceptance of this House.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Vaccination is to be made compulsory and it was recommended to the Government that it should be made compulsory and it requires the sanction of the

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Government. It is pending the final touch of the Government and as soon as orders are passed this will be given effect to.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—So the policy is to make it compulsory?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

The demand was put and carried.

(4). 17 & 18—Vaccination, Sanitation and Conservancy—Cranganur—Rs. 1,420.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 1,420 under Sanitation, Conservancy and Vaccination—Cranganur. I request that the amount may be granted.

Demand put and carried.

(5). 25—Stationery and Printing—Rs. 1,21,683.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, I beg to move for an allotment of Rs. 1,21,683 under 25—Stationery rnd Printing. I request that the House may be pleased to vote the grant.

Motion No. 1.

Dr. K. Sankara Menon.—Sir, my motion is *to reduce the allotment of Rs. 71,533 for Printing by Re. 1.*

This cut motion is moved to bring home to the mind of the Government the desirability of introducing alphabetical order in the arrangement of departmental sheets in the Gazette to facilitate reference. As far as the present arrangement is concerned, I do not think any alphabetical order is maintained. In all other Gazettes, for instance, Travancore and other Government Gazettes, the departmental sheets are arranged in alphabetical order. It would be clear to the House without any lengthy speech from me that some such arrangement as contemplated will facilitate reference. And it will also be seen that if the alphabetical order is introduced the first department would be Agriculture. Cochin being an agricultural country the first and foremost place ought to be given to Agriculture in a Government publication like the Gazette. Then comes Co-operation and then Education. This will be the order of utility and importance. I do not think that the Hon'ble Members will have any objection to introduce the alphabetical system for facilitating reference. Therefore without any lengthy speech I move this cut motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Cannot the Government see that the Gazette is properly stitched? The Hon'ble Members will have noticed the last week's Gazette. As soon as the wrapper was removed the whole Gazette fell to pieces. Usually that is the way how we get the Gazette. So it is clear that they are not stitched properly. This matter was brought up before this

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House once before and the Government had agreed to see that the Gazettes are properly stitched.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Whatever be the arrangement I do not think there are many people who can understand the mysteries involved in the arrangement of the Gazette. If you want to find out anything you will have to turn the pages for half an hour. The method of numbering is very peculiar. All are arranged in such a way as to create such a great confusion in the minds of the people who are not associated with the mysteries of Gazette reading. We are included in that group. It becomes a useful book only to a very few. Of course with regard to the paper and printing we do not say anything. About stitching the Hon'ble Member has already referred to. But the unfortunate part of it is that it is very difficult to make out from the Gazette what you want to know. Whether alphabetical order or any other order you must make some arrangement by which the ordinary human being can understand where he has to refer to and to enable him to find out what he wants. I deny that any Member in this House will be able to select a particular passage from the Gazette very soon. I will just point out to them. I dare say they will have to turn page after age and turn this side and that side before they can find out the particular passage wanted by me. It is high time that a more suitable arrangement is devised. Will the Government kindly see that some reform is made soon?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—സർ, ഈ വിഷമം ഞാനും അനുഭവിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. എനിക്കറിവില്ലാഞ്ഞിട്ടായിരിക്കും ഗസറ്റ് നോക്കുവാൻ പ്രയാസം തോന്നിയിട്ടെന്നു് വിചാരിച്ചിരുന്നു. സ്വന്തം വിസ്തൃതപ്പെടുത്തുകൊണ്ടുവരേണ്ട എന്ന ദുരഭിമാനംകൊണ്ടു് ഇതുവരെ പുറത്തു പറഞ്ഞില്ലെന്നേയുള്ളു. ഇപ്പോൾ മുമ്പു് അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ട മാതിരി യോഗ്യന്മാർക്കുകൂടി ഗസറ്റ് നോക്കുവാൻ പ്രയാസമെന്നു കാണുമ്പോൾ അതു ഗസറ്റിന്റെ പേജു് ഭരണഘടനയുടെ തരക്കേടില്ലാതെ നോക്കുന്നവരുടെ തരക്കേടല്ലെന്നു ബോദ്ധ്യമായിരിക്കുന്നു.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—ഇന്നത്തെ സമ്പ്രദായം ഗസറ്റിൽ കാണുന്ന വർത്തമാനങ്ങൾ നാട്ടുകാരാരും അറിയരുതെന്നുദ്ദേശിച്ചു് സ്വീകരിച്ചതായിരിയ്ക്കാം. ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഇരുപതംഗങ്ങൾ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെതന്നെ ഞാനും കൊണ്ടുസഭയിൽ വരുന്നതിനുമുമ്പു് ഗസറ്റുനോക്കി അതിൽ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തിട്ടുള്ള സമ്പ്രദായവിശേഷം എന്നെ അറിയുന്നതുപ്പെടുത്തി. ഞാനിക്കാര്യം മനസ്സിലായതുതന്നെയില്ല. ഗസറ്റു നോക്കാനുള്ള അറിവു് എനിക്കില്ലാഞ്ഞതുകൊണ്ടായിരിക്കാം വേണ്ടതു കാണാൻ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുന്നു് ഞാൻ സംശയിച്ചു. ഞാൻതന്നെ അഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചു ഈ വി-

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ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചാണ് ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നത്. ഏന്നാൽ ഇപ്പോൾ എന്റെ സംശയമെല്ലാം നീങ്ങി. ഈ യോഗാംഗങ്ങൾതന്നെ ഇതു പറയുന്നതു കേട്ടപ്പോൾ എനിയ്ക്കും സംസാരിയ്ക്കാൻ ധൈര്യമായി. ഇപ്പോഴും ഇതിന്റെ സമ്പ്രദായത്തെപറ്റി അറിയുവാൻ എനിക്കു കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ല. അതിനാൽ ഗസറ്റിന്റെ പേജ് നമ്പരുകൾ ഒരു ആർഡറായി ആക്കീട്ടു ഞങ്ങളെ മനസ്സിലാക്കിയാൽ കൊള്ളാം. അതിനു ശ്രമിക്കേണ്ടതിനു് ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The arrangement of the departments in the Gazette is not done in a haphazard fashion. There is a principle behind it. It follows the Standing Order No. 254 of the Cochin Government. According to that the several departments have been arranged in the order of their importance. That order is being followed in giving priority to each of the departments in the order of precedence in the Gazette. With regard to numbering of the pages I think the difficulty is inevitable because the same department will have to be represented in successive issues and they may find it difficult if the numbers of the last page of their departmental sheet in one issue is not carried over to the next gazette. I hope the Hon'ble Members follow me. Therefore with regard to numbering this is an inevitable feature of all State Gazettes. Hon'ble Members may refer to Mysore and British Gazettes or to any other State Gazette. It is a common feature of all the Gazettes. This is an inevitable feature whether it be a draw-back or merit.

And with regard to alphabetical order Travancore does follow that system. But neither the Mysore nor British Gazettes follow this order. Our arrangement is based on the Mysore and British practice. That is, more important departments are given priority in allotting the pages. In Travancore most probably alphabetical order is introduced to judge from the make-up of the Gazette for the following reason. In our Gazette there is a detailed contents sheet—I do not know whether it has been of any use—but there has been the contents sheet of each department while in the departmental gazette sheets of Travancore you will find that they do not give any such detailed contents. They simply say the Land Revenue Department and so on. But in our case detailed contents of what these sheets do show and their numbers also are given. Perhaps that is the reason why in Travancore the alphabetical order is adopted. I do not know also how far the introduction of the alphabetical order will facilitate reference. We have no objection if the House wants to revise the system. Only the Standing Order has to be altered and there is no difficulty for that.

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Dr. A. R. Menon.—What is the objection for having serial numbers also? Put the serial number also in the Gazette so that, say, at the 75th page we may know what we want to know.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—That cannot be done. To take a concrete instance, say, the Gazette of the first Saturday in Chingam, and the Land Revenue Department thereof. This may end on the 18th page. Then in the next Gazette the same Department should have the page 19 to start with. This will not be possible to do unless we continue our present practice.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Each Gazette must have two numbers.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—That can be done. One set of numbers for the department and one for each issue of the Gazette. There is no harm in it.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

The Demand was put and carried.

(6) 23—Stationery—Cranganur—Rs. 1,200.

Rama Varmha Tampuran—Sir, I rise to move for an allotment of Rs. 1,200 under 23—Stationery—Cranganur. I request the House may be pleased to vote the grant.

Demand put and carried.

(7) 10—Forests—Rs. 1,61,320.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—Sir, I beg to move for a grant of Rs. 1,61,320 under Demand No. 10—Forests. It is my misfortune that it is an 'adversity' budget that I have to present to the House to start with. That this is a circumstance due to factors beyond our control would have been evident from the speech of my colleague the Hon'ble Finance Member as well as from the Memorandum explaining the details of the budget. As the timber market has been unprecedentedly dull for some time now and as no signs of its improvement in the near future are as yet discernible, it has been deemed prudent to budget only for a reduced revenue in the coming year; and in view of the anticipated reduction in revenue, drastic reductions in expenditure under most of the heads have been effected. It is expected that the transactions of the coming year will end in a net surplus of Rs. 1,18,600 which, if realised, I submit, will not be quite an unsatisfactory result under existing conditions. I would therefore request that the House may be pleased to grant the demand.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 54,530 for Salaries and Establishment by Rs. 2,340.*

Sir, I rise to move the cut that stands in my name on the Agenda. The object of the motion is to urge upon the Government the desirability of absorbing the supernumeraries now on the office establishment of the Conservator, in the Forest Department and in other departments. The Forest Department

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can only absorb a small number; the others, however, can be absorbed in other departments. The matter may not perhaps be a very important one; still it is one which implies a general policy. While on the one side we say there is financial stringency for the Government, which by the way I do not admit, on the other side we provide for supernumeraries in certain departments, providing at the same time for new appointments in other departments. This, I am sure, is a wasteful policy. Why keep certain supernumerary hands in some departments and at the same time provide for new posts in other departments, and appoint new people there? Posts have to be created according to the necessity for them; but when it comes to the matter of appointment, why not appoint all the supernumeraries to the new posts created, thus avoiding the extra expense of appointing new hands? I am sure this policy would result in some gain to the Government. This matter was pointed out in the meeting of the Standing Finance Committee and Government as usual said they would consider. Perhaps one or two cases were noted. Subsequently I have been at pains to see in which departments there were supernumeraries and in which departments they could be absorbed. I would like to give some instances. In the Agricultural Department there are two peons who are supernumeraries. In the Excise Department there are on the supernumerary list 10 peons drawing Rs. 15 each and 24 peons drawing Rs. 10 each; and in the Forest department there are 3 clerks on Rs. 25 and Attenders, one on Rs. 20 and two on Rs. 15, and 4 peons drawing Rs. 10 each, per mensem. On the other side, we find that in the Co-operative Department new posts are created and new appointments have to be made. A clerk is to be appointed on Rs. 25—40 and one peon is to be appointed on Rs. 11. Again in the Medical Department they require attenders on Rs. 12 and Rs. 15 Again, in the new Sanitary Department you will be requiring a number of hands as clerks, maistries, bill-collectors, and so on. Therefore, there is scope for utilising the services of the supernumeraries, thereby effecting some savings to the Government. I do not think any long speech is necessary to bring home to the Government the advisability of this measure, and I suppose they will accept the proposition, and would not have recourse to the usual reply that the matter will be noted and considered. I commend the motion to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—I may explain to the House that those who are now supernumeraries in the Forest Department were originally on the permanent staff and they have been thrown out according to the proposals of the Special Finance Committee. Subsequently, my predecessor made a report to

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the Government that the staff sanctioned according to the recommendations of the Committee has not been found sufficient to meet the requirements of the department. The matter is under the consideration of the Government and final orders have not been passed.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Am I to understand that these hands are still required in the Forest Department?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—Yes. As stated already they were thrown out in accordance with the proposals of the Special Finance Committee. But subsequently it was reported that the permanent staff sanctioned by the Committee are not adequate to meet the requirements of the Forest Department. Representations have been made by the Conservator to the Government in the matter. Gevernment orders have not been received.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Their services are still required in the Forest Department. Then why are they treated as supernumeraries?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—The question is pending the orders of the Government.

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—Till they are scrapped away they are to be treated as supernumeraries. The Conservator has been constantly telling the Government that this extra staff is still necessary for the department. So the question of scrapping them away is still under consideration. Till then they are to be treated as supernumeraries.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—How many supernumeraris are there?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—The Hon'ble Member has been telling us that there are 2 clerks and 2 or 3 peons.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—I may say that this has been practically accepted by the Government. The Government have ordered that a supernumerary peon in the Revenue Department should be appointed as the peon of the new Co-operative Inspector for whom a post of a new peon has been sanctioned. So this is practically accepted.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 2.

The mover being absent the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 54,530 for Salaries and Establishment by Re. 1.*

The inadequate measures adopted for the disposal of the stack of timber collected and also the adoption of measures which must necessarily militate against the disposal of the stack of Government timber.

Motion No. 3.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 54,53 for Salaries and Establishment by Re. 1.*

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Sir, at the time of an "adversity budget" I feel it will not be proper to ask for anything which will have the effect of increasing the financial difficulty of the Government. But at the same time I wish to move the cut just to ascertain what the attitude of the Government on the subject is. The subject of the cut is to revise the pay of Foresters to two grades *i. e.* 40 to 60 and 60 to 80. Their present pay is, six Foresters on 40 to 60; five on 25 to 40. The injustice done to the Foresters can easily be known if a comparison is drawn between their position and the position of their equals in the Excise Department. We have in the Excise Department a Commissioner on Rs. 450 to 650, Circle Inspectors on Rs. 100 to 150. On the same grade we have in the Forest Department the Conservator and the Rangers. As for the Conservator he gets the same pay as that of the Excise Commissioner and the Rangers and Circle Inspectors get the same pay. Below then we have Foresters in the Forest Department and Sub-Inspectors in the Excise Department. Amongst the Foresters there are only 6 posts on Rs. 40 to 60 and 8 posts on Rs. 25 to 40. While in the Excise Department we have Sub-Inspectors, two on Rs. 80 to 100; 4 on Rs.60 to 80 and 10 on Rs. 40 to 60. The position of the Foresters in the Forest Department is just the same as that of the Sub-Inspectors in the Excise Department. The Foresters, I understand, are men who have got a lot of duties to attend to. They are the Prosecuting Officers in all Forest cases in the Magistrate Courts. They have also a lot of other things to do. Their position is rather anamolous. Guards who are considered to be below Foresters at times get a pay higher than what Foresters get. A 1st grade guard gets Rs. 30 while the Forester starts with only Rs. 25. Guards are considered to be inferior in rank to Foresters. It is just to point out this aspect of the thing that have I tabled the motion. I would also like to know the Government position.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—Their pay has been increased by the recent revision and so, it will be noticed, their lot has been generally improved. The proposal cannot be accepted by the Government because the expenditure involved will be exhorbitant. Under these circumstances the present suggestion cannot be considered.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether there were any complaints from these persons and whether any orders have been passed?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—Yes, there have been complaints which were placed before the Government, and this was the reply from the Government.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

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Motion No. 4.

As the mover was absent the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 54,530 for Establishment by Re. 1.*

(Collecting large quantities of timber from the Cochin forests without ascertainning the markets for the same and thereby accumulating large stock.)

The demand was put and carried.

(8).—Tramway—Rs. 75,762.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an allotment of Rs. 75,762, under Demand No. 11—Tramway. In doing so I have only to point out that in view of the restricted extractions from Parambikulam forests proposed for next year, consequent on the prevailing uncertainty of the timber market, the Tramway will have to transport a less quantity of timber than is usual and accordingly every possible retrenchment has been made. Only the bare minimum requirements for proper maintenance have been provided for; it will be noticed that appreciable reductions have been made in the establishment as well as in the maintenance charges; no capital expenditure has been provided for. There is accordingly, a reduction of Rs. 53,600 in the expenditure for 1108 as compared with the revised estimate of Rs. 1,35,200 for the current year. Though the present provision is only intended to keep the Tramway alive, we cannot afford to kill it, as once killed, it will be hard to revive it when required. And the necessity for its intensive working may arise at any time since there is marketable timber still left in the Parambikulam forest for which a demand may come at any moment, and when it does, we have no alternative means of transport except through the Tramway. It is also to be noticed that in spite of the restricted programme of operations for the ensuing year it is expected to work it at a profit. Under these circumstances, I would request the House to grant the demand.

Motion No. 1.

As the mover was then absent the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 75,762 for Tramway—total by Re. 1.*

(To discuss the advisability of stopping the Tramway altogether.)

Motion No. 2.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 75,762 for Tramway by, Rs. 10,000.*

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ഈ ടാംവെയെപ്പറ്റി ഇവിടെ വലിയ പ്രസംഗം ഒന്നും ആവശ്യമില്ല. എല്ലാ ബഡ്ജറ്റിലും ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി വാദങ്ങൾ നടക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇത്തവണയും അതിന് വെള്ളാനയെന്നോ കുവന്നാനയെന്നോ പല പേരുകളും പറഞ്ഞു നിർത്തണമെന്ന് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ അതു് വെള്ളാനയാണെന്ന് ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു് ഇപ്പോഴാണു് മനസ്സിലായതു്. അതിനെ കൊല്ലുവാൻ പാടില്ല. തീറ്റി കൊടുക്കണം. അതു ജീവിച്ചിരിക്കണമെങ്കിൽ ആഹാരവും വെള്ളവും കൊടുക്കണം എന്നൊക്കെ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. അങ്ങനെ ആഹാരവും വെള്ളവും കൊടുത്തില്ലാതെ വേറെ സുഖാനുഭവങ്ങൾ എടുക്കുന്നതിന്റെ അർത്ഥം മനസ്സിലായിട്ടില്ല. ഗവൺമെണ്ടിൽനിന്നും റിട്രെഞ്ചുമെണ്ടിന്റെ ഫലമായി റിട്രെഞ്ചുമെൻറു ചെയ്യണ്ണ വരുത്തുവാൻ വേണ്ടി അതിൽ നിന്നും നാലു ശിപായിമാരെ കുറച്ചു് അതോടു കൂടി വലിയ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളത്തിൽ കൂട്ടി. അല്ലാതെ വലിയ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ കുറയ്ക്കുകയോ അവരുടെ ശമ്പളത്തിൽ കുറയ്ക്കുകയോ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല. അതിനു പകരം താഴെയുള്ളവരെ കുറയ്ക്കുന്നു. ഈ ടാംവെ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടു് ജീവിച്ചിരിയ്ക്കുവാനും വേണ്ടി അതിന്റെ സകല ചുമതലകളും നോക്കുവാൻ ഫാറസ്റ്റു് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിലും ഏറ്റിട്ടുകളഞ്ഞു്. ആ സ്ഥിതിക്കു് അതിൽ വലിയ ശമ്പളമുള്ള മാനേജരുടെ തസ്തികയിൽ ഒരെണ്ണമെങ്കിലും കുറച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ഒരു അഞ്ചൽ നടപടി വന്നാൽ അതു് താഴെനിന്നും മുകളിലേയ്ക്കു് അയയ്ക്കുക, അതിലേയ്ക്കു് ഒരു അസിസ്റ്റണ്ടു് കൺസർവേറ്റർ ഒരു വക്കിംഗ്പ്ലാൻ ആഫീസർ ഇങ്ങനെ രണ്ടു പേരെ വച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഈ രണ്ടാളുകളും അവക്കു വേറെ ഒരു ജോലിയുമില്ലാതെയാണിരിയ്ക്കുന്നതു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ ടാംവെയും ഫാറസ്റ്റും കൂടി ഏടുപ്പിയ്ക്കുന്ന പക്ഷം അവക്കും ജോലിയുണ്ടാകും. മറുള്ളവരുടെ ശമ്പളം കുറയ്ക്കുകയും ചെയ്യാം. ഈ ടാംവെ എന്നുള്ളതു കുറച്ചു കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ പതിനായിരം രൂപാ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു ആദായമുണ്ടാകും. അതിൽ ഇവക്കു വേണ്ടി രണ്ടായിരം നീക്കി വച്ചാലും ബാക്കി മുഴുവൻ ആദായമാണു. അതിലേയ്ക്കു് ഇതു രണ്ടും കൂടി ഒന്നിച്ചു കൂട്ടിച്ചേർത്താൽ മതി. രണ്ടിനേറെയും ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നടപടികളും ഒന്നായിട്ടാണിരിയ്ക്കുന്നതു്. ഇങ്ങനെ വേറെ ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടായി വച്ചിരിയ്ക്കുന്നതു വെറുതെയാണു്. ആ സംഗതി ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുവാൻ മാത്രമാണു് ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിയ്ക്കുന്നതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. നാരായണമേനോൻ.—ടാംവെ ബഡ്ജറ്റു് നോക്കിയാൽ ചിലവിന്റെ എല്ലാ ഇനങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും കഴിയുന്നിടത്തോളം കുറവു ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നുള്ളതു് സ്പഷ്ടമാണെല്ലോ. വരുന്ന കൊല്ലത്തിൽ ലാഭത്തോടു കൂടിയാണു് ടാംവെ നടത്തുവാനുദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതെന്നും കാണാമല്ലോ. വരുന്ന കൊല്ലത്തിൽ ഫാറ

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സ്റ്റേറ്റ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിലെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെക്കൊണ്ട് ടാക്സു യുടെ മേൽനോട്ടം കഴിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനേ എന്നു് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട നെല്ലായി മെമ്പർ ചോദിക്കയുണ്ടായി. എന്നാൽ ടാക്സു് ഒരു ടെക്സ് നിക്കൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടും അതു നടത്തുവാനുള്ള പ്രത്യേക പഠിപ്പും ഫാസ്റ്റ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിലെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്കില്ലാത്തതുമാകുന്നു. അതിനു് യന്ത്രശാസ്ത്രവിദഗ്ധന്മാർ വേണം. അങ്ങനെയുള്ളവരാണു് ഇപ്പോൾ ടാക്സു ഭരണം നോക്കുന്നതു്. അവരെ പറഞ്ഞയക്കുന്നതായാൽ ടാക്സു കേടുവരാതെ നോക്കുന്നതിനു് പ്രയാസമായിരിക്കും. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ കട്ട് മോഷൻ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനു സ്വീകരിക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കയില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമലിംഗയ്യർ—ചിലവു കുറയ്ക്കുവാൻ ഒരു വഴി കാണിച്ചുതരുന്നതിനു മാത്രമാണു് ഞാൻ ഇങ്ങനെ പറഞ്ഞതു്. അതു സാധിക്കുന്നതല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഞാൻ അതിലേക്കു വേണ്ടി നിർബന്ധിക്കുന്നില്ല.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

The demand was put and carried.

(9). 12—Registration—Rs. 65,125.

Rama Varmha Tampuran—Sir, I rise to move for an allotment of Rs. 65,125 under 12—Registration. There is only one difference between the budget of the next year and the current budget and that is, four of the Registry offices have been proposed to be abolished in the course of next year. Except for that abolition the figures are almost the same. It is proposed to abolish these four offices just for the time being to effect some saving. It is estimated that the savings would be about Rs. 8,000. By a judicious distribution of the villages under each of these four offices it is found that the public will not be put to very great inconvenience. Of course it will not be as good and convenient as it is at present. Since the bus service has come to stay facilities for communication have grown enormously. It is felt that the inconvenience if at all will be nothing very appreciable. It is under that impression that these four Registry offices have been proposed to be abolished.

Except for this the figures are almost the same. I request that the House may be pleased to vote the demand.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Since there is a general motion standing in the name of the Hon'ble Member for Adoor, I do not move this motion now.

Hence the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. Paul Mampilli—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 45,415 for Establishment by Re. 1.*

(The desirability of discontinuing the Registry Office at Narakkal.)

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Motion No. 2.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 47,702 for Establishment by Re. 1.*

Sir, this motion is tabled to bring to the notice of the Government the necessity of exempting from S. O. No. 3 certain head clerks with long service in the Registration Department. There are in the Registration Department two or three head clerks who have been exempted from S. O. No. 1 (literary qualification) for the post of head clerks in Registry offices. They were exempted because of their long and faithful service and proficiency in their work. As will be seen from their record of service they continue to render very satisfactory work as head clerks.

The first grade head clerks of the Registration Department are required to pass the Registration test. The rule applies to the head clerks exempted from S. O. No. 1 also. Now these latter are very hard put to it on account of this rule. They are men of considerable experience and proficiency in their work as will be seen from their past record. They have been put in charge of the duties of District Registrars on several occasions in privilege leave vacancies. They have acquitted themselves well on all these occasions. So there is no question that they are men of approved service and ability. But regarding the Registration test the Government will kindly see that they are placed under a very severe handicap. All the three head clerks referred to are advanced in years and are burdened with large families. It will be very hard to expect them to prepare for and pass examinations at this stage and in the rather unfavourable circumstances in which they are situated. In this connection it is noteworthy that in the case of some who had the requisite literary qualifications, exemptions have been given from S. O. No. 3 (Registration test.) So the Government may out of compassion extend the same concession to these less fortunately circumstanced officers. After all, it is loyal and meritorious service that was responsible for the Government exempting them from S. O. No. 1. It is the same consideration that should rightly weigh with the Government in exempting them from the operation of S. O. No. 3 also.

With these words I commend this motion for the acceptance of the House.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—On a point of information. May I know whether there are cases in which exemptions are given from Departmental Tests?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—In very rare cases on merits.

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Mr. Paul Mampilli.—In the same Department certain people were exempted.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Wholesale exemption like this of a class of officers cannot, I think, be given. That the Government never does under any circumstances. If any particular instance requires favourable consideration, it will be considered by the Government. A class of officers cannot be exempted.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Believing that the Government will consider when the question comes up, I withdraw.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 3.

Mr. A. I. Mani.—As there is a general cut motion, I do not move this.

Hence the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. A. I. Mani.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 47,702 for Establishment by Re. 1.*

(*To bring to the notice of the Government the inadvisability of discontinuing the Registration office at Kallettumkara.*)

Motion No. 4.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 65,125 for Registration by Re .1.*

As the printed note makes it clear the object of the cut motion is to request the Government to stop the practice of levying registration fees on the prize money or the auction money as the case may be, mentioned in kuri security bonds and also the future subscriptions instead of levying the same on the prize or auction money alone which was the practice in vogue here and which is the current practice in Travancore and British India. The practice which now obtains here makes it necessary to pay registration fees not only on the amount that is realised from the kuri by way of auction money or prize money as the case may be but also on the full amount of the future subscriptions that will have to be paid by the kuri subscriber. This was not the practice here nor is it the practice either in Travancore or in British India. It is to bring this fact to the attention of the Government and to request them that registration fees on kuri security bonds may be levied as was done before that I have tabled this motion.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Is the registration fee calculated on both the amounts?

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Yes.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Only when the security is executed. What the Honble Member said is quite true and what he said with regard to Travancore is also quite true. Our

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practice is based on the British practice, and there on both the amounts the fee is collected. We went into the question in detail in 1104 and we got a reply from the Malabar Registration Officer that in Malabar it is collected on both the amounts. In Travancore it is only on one amount. We are following the British practice.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—What was the practice here before?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not think we have changed the practice. I am not quite sure.

Mr. A. Sankara Menon.—I am quite sure that the practice has been changed and I say that the present practice ought not to continue. The thing is this. Suppose there is a kuri in which the capital is Rs. 5,000 and suppose the first ticket is won and there is the future subscription amounting to another Rs. 4,500. When the security bond is executed registration fee to be paid is on Rs. 9,500. That is putting a heavy burden on the persons who have to execute the security bonds. With regard to the stamp duty there is no difficulty. For the future subscription an *ad valorem* fee and for the receipt of the amount a stamp duty of one anna are sufficient. But with regard to the charges for registration it is on Rs. 9,500 instead of its being on Rs. 5,000 or on Rs. 4,500.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Both are separately calculated.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We will note the point raised now.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 5.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—I also do not move the motion as another general motion No. 14, is to be moved by the Member for Adoor.

Hence the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 65,125 for Registration by Re. 1.*

(*To bring to the notice of the Government the great inconvenience that will be caused to the public if the Mulanthuruthy Registry office is abolished.*)

Motion No. 6.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 65,125 for Registration by Re. 1.*

I do not wish to speak now. But I shall present a petition from the inhabitants of my constituency, Pazhayannur. I move the motion and reserve the speech for the other motion. This is a petition signed by 1,521 inhabitants praying for the retention of the Registry Office at Pazhayannur.

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Secretary to the Council.—ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട കൊച്ചി നിയമനിർമ്മാണസഭ സാമാജികന്മാരുടെ സമക്ഷത്തിൽ പഴയന്നൂർ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിന്റെ അധികാര സീമയിൽ പെട്ട എളനാട്ടു വെന്തുര്", പഴയന്നൂർ, വടക്കേത്തു, മായന്നൂർ, കണിയാരക്കോട്", തിരുവിലാമല, പാമ്പാടി, കൊണ്ടഴി എന്നീ വില്ലേജുകളിൽ താമസിയ്ക്കുന്നവരും, രാജഭക്തന്മാരുമായ പൊതുജനങ്ങൾ വിനയാദരപുരസ്സരം ബോധിപ്പിയ്ക്കുന്ന സങ്കട ഹർജി.....

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Is the question under discussion?

Deputy President.—Yes.

Mr. A. Sankara Menon.—On a point of information. I want to know whether any of these Registry Offices is working at a loss?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—No.

The motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 7.

As the following motion was not moved it was considered withdrawn.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 65,125 for Registration by Re. 1.*

(*To consider the advisability of abolishing the Kallettumkara Registry Office*).

Motion No. 8.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 65,125 for Registration by Re. 1.*

Sir, in moving this cut my purpose is to bring home to the Government the inadvisability of their decision to abolish the four Registry offices of Mulanthuruthi, Narakkal, Kallettumkara and Pazhayannur. The only argument which the Government could advance in support of their decision is the argument of financial stringency; and even just now the Secretary has been pleased to say that it is on account of financial stringency that they have come to this decision—yes, simply because they can save something like Rs. 8,000 by this measure. Now, this argument of financial stringency has been brought forward in this Council many a time during the discussions, both by the Government and also by some of the Hon'ble non-official Members on this side; and in fact the whole budget is full of this argument. It is framed on the hypothesis of financial stringency. If, therefore, I now make an attempt to disprove and explode this argument of financial stringency, perhaps the Hon'ble Members here would be surprised. Yet it is a fact that our Government at present do not labour under any financial stringency. (*Hear, hear.*) Bear with me for a few minutes and I shall substantiate this statement. I hope the President will give me some additional time since several cut motions

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relating to this same matter have been withdrawn. I shall show in a very simple way that there is for the Government no financial stringency worth the name at present.

I attempted to bring home to the Government this fact at the Finance Committee Meeting and I found the Government had no strong argument against it. And I thought this argument of financial stringency would not be brought up again. But because it is again brought up I feel it my duty to place the facts and figures before this House, so that I may convince the Hon'ble Members of the hollowness of the argument; and to request them that this illusion of financial stringency may be removed from their minds.

Let us take the case of a man who was drawing Rs. 100 some time ago, but who now gets only Rs. 90. All of you know,—and it has been admitted by the Secretary himself—that the purchasing power of money has increased. The value of money has increased at least—at the lowest estimate—by two annas in the rupee. This is a conservative estimate. There is thus an increase of 12½ per cent, in the purchasing power of money. I say that this man who was getting Rs. 100 previously but is now getting only Rs. 90, can get on very well with the Rs. 90, provided he has no such monetary liabilities as paying interest on debts, or subscriptions to kuries. We can very well understand the sad plight or predicament of people who are burdened with debt, or who have to pay subscriptions to kuries. But in the case of a man who has not got such monetary liabilities I find, whichever way I may argue the question, there can be no difficulty at all. With Rs. 90 now he would be better off than with Rs. 100 previously. The only thing is that when he is disposing of his money on the various items of expenditure, he will have to allot at the rate of 10 per cent less on every item.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Cost of education of children.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Well, 10 per cent less. Government must co-operate in this matter, and I am sure Government were wrong in having even contemplated the idea of increasing school fees at this time, so also in having decided to increase the Anchal rates. All these rates have to be reduced, because you find one rupee now is worth more th n one rupee some time ago. I do not think anybody can controvert this argument of increase in the purchasing power of money.

Government had an income something like 84 lakhs last year; and they have budgetted for a total income of 83 lakhs this year, including two lakhs provided under Income-tax. Even including that,—though we do not find any reason why

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that should be excluded, when the non-official Members have been so very prompt in acceding to this request of the Government. (*Hear, hear*),—we find there is only a decrease of one lakh. But these 83 lakhs must be regarded as much more, because of the increase in the purchasing power of money. Why not then we judiciously distribute this amount all along the line, to all the Departments at the rate of 10 per cent less? True that the case would be different if Government had heavy monetary liabilities. But I do not find any such monetary liabilities for the Government, except for very small cases, such as the subsidy to the British Government and certain interest charges. But these are small items. All other items are items of pay, or the purchase of stores or payment for labour and such other things, wherein a reduction of 10 per cent can be conveniently made. Therefore, all this argument of financial stringency in justification of retrenchment in institutions of public utility, is quite untenable, whatever be the spirit which has prompted you to undertake such retrenchment. Thus the only argument by which the abolition of the Registry Offices can be justified falls to the ground—namely, this argument of financial stringency. Let them reduce the pay of the Registrars. Let them reduce the pay of the other servants. Let them reduce the allotments on stationery, on office establishment, on travelling allowance and such other items. But there is no justification in abolishing outright any institution of public utility.

Again, for a moment let us look at the professions they have made in the Finance Member's speech. I refer to page 20. Says the Finance Member: "To sum up—retrenchment and progress may be said to be the key note of the budget which I have placed before the House. We have aimed at Retrenchment without retarding progress." I admit the first part of the statement, but I do not admit the second part of it. "Retrenchment and economies in non-essentials where they are feasible, the savings being utilised for the furtherance of the economic and social progress of the people". And proceeding he says: "While retrenchments have been rather drastically effected in the salaries, allowances and contingencies of Departments, in respect of services rendered to the people, every effort has been made to provide more funds wherever necessary". But the abolition of the four Registry Offices has belied these professions; for I contend that the Registry Offices, the four Registry Offices concerned, have been doing very important service to the people of the State; and if we want to realise the magnitude of these services we have only to look at the inconvenience that will be felt by the public by the abolition of these offices. Reckoning

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on an average of 1,500 documents a year in each office, there would be 6,000 documents a year in all the four offices together. This is only a very conservative estimate. I think the number in all probability would be much larger. On an average some three to four persons would be required as parties to a document. Even at that rate the number of people affected by the abolition would come to 24,000. We shall see that it would be much more when we take into consideration the effects of the Christian Succession Regulation and the Nayar Regulation, which are bringing more and more of the people of these communities to the Registry Office. More people are now required for the registration of a document than previously. Even entire families have to be taken to the Registry Offices. It was not so in ancient days. Therefore, very serious hardship would be felt to a large number of people, if these Registry Offices are abolished. The conclusion, therefore, is that in order to gain the small amount of Rs. 8,000, Government are putting some 24 or even 30 thousand people to very serious hardship and to unnecessary expenditure as well, for it must be remembered that everyone of these people will have to spend more if the Registry Offices in question are abolished. While the Government is gaining Rs. 8,000, these 30 thousand people will be losing much more than Rs. 8,000. (*Hear, hear*).

The whole thing must have happened somewhat like this. Perhaps an order was sent by the Diwan, asking the Departmental Heads to effect economies in their Departments ; and the Departmental Heads thought that if sufficient economies are pointed out, the axe will not fall on their pay. Perhaps, under that delusion they proposed economies right and left, and in some cases unnecessarily. When a man's pay is concerned naturally he will take it as no light matter. Now that the pay cut is introduced, now that the axe has fallen on the salaries of the officials, I presume that if once again the Departmental Head for Registration is consulted, perhaps he might have a different story to say about the desirability of the abolition of these four offices.

The readiness with which we have granted the income-tax, must have been an eye-opener to the Government that whenever there was financial stringency the responsible non-official Members of this House, the accredited leaders of the people, would surely go to their aid and would be very prompt in finding funds for them. Therefore, when the non-official side so earnestly requests the Government to reconsider their decision in this matter, and when it wants the Government to understand that this is a matter which very seriously affects the convenience and comforts of the people, it is to be hoped that Govern-

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ment would not defy the popular opinion so clearly expressed but would do the necessary in this respect. If, after respecting the wishes of the people, if after spending money for departments, rendering service to the people, if after doing that, Government is confronted with financial difficulty, the Members on this side of the House would promptly go to their rescue and grant whatever demands Government might place before them in order to restore the financial position of the Government. At the same time we would ask Government that their primary consideration should be the needs of the people, the comforts and convenience of the people ; and I have tried to show that here is a matter wherein the convenience and comforts of a large number of people are concerned. Therefore, without entering upon any long argument, I beg to commend this motion to the kind acceptance of this House.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Has not this item already included in the budget?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—They have been removed.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—ഈ വിഷയത്തെപ്പറ്റി ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട അഡ്വർ മെമ്പർ പറഞ്ഞതിൽനിന്നും കൂടുതലായി ഒന്നും പറയുവാനില്ലെങ്കിലും പ്രത്യേക സ്ഥലങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെമ്പർക്ക് വിവരം ഇല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ട് പഴയന്നൂർ വില്ലേജിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് നാലുവാക്ക് പറയാം. ഞാൻ പഴയന്നൂരിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് മാത്രം പറയുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് മറ്റു ഭാഗങ്ങളിലുള്ള രജിസ്ട്രാഫീസുകളെ എടുത്തുകളയുന്നതും എനിക്കു സമ്മതമാണെന്ന വിചാരിയ്ക്കരുത്.

എന്റെ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിൽ രജിസ്ട്രാഫീസ് ഉണ്ടായിട്ട് പതിനാലു കൊല്ലമായി. (ഞങ്ങളിവിടെ പറയുന്നതു ദയവു ചെയ്തു ഗവൺമെൻറിൽ നിന്നും ഒന്നു ശ്രദ്ധവെച്ചു കേട്ടാൽകൊള്ളാം. ഞങ്ങളുടെ ന്യായമായ സങ്കടങ്ങളൊന്നും ഗവൺമെൻറു ശ്രദ്ധവെച്ചു കേൾക്കില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഞങ്ങളിവിടെ വന്നു വായലക്കുന്നതെന്തിന്? മറ്റാൾക്കു കേൾക്കുവാൻ? പ്രസംഗിക്ക മാത്രമേ വേണ്ടതുള്ളുവെങ്കിൽ അതിനു ഞങ്ങൾക്കു വേറേയും സ്ഥലങ്ങളുണ്ട്. ഇവിടെത്തന്നെ വേണമെന്നില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഗവൺമെൻറു ദയവു വിചാരിച്ച് ഞങ്ങളുടെ സങ്കടങ്ങളെ ശ്രദ്ധവച്ചു കേൾക്കണമെന്നപേക്ഷിയ്ക്കുന്നു).

തിരുവിലാമലയിൽ നിന്നും ചേലക്കരയ്ക്ക് റോഡുവഴി 12 മയിൽ ദൂരമുണ്ട്. ചേലക്കരയുടെ അതുത്തിവരെ പോകണമെങ്കിൽ 2 നാഴിക കൂടി നടക്കണം. ഈ 12 നാഴിക വഴിയും നടന്നല്ലാതെ ചേലക്കരയ്ക്കു വരുവാൻ പ്രയാസമാണ്. പഴയന്നൂരിൽ രജിസ്ട്രാഫീസില്ലാതിരുന്ന ഒരു കാലമുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അന്നു ചേലക്കരയിലായിരുന്നു രജിസ്ട്രാഫീസ്. അവിടെ ചെ

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ന്നു് കായ്യം നടത്താനുള്ള അസൌകര്യങ്ങളും കുറച്ചൊന്നുമല്ലായിരുന്നു. ഇതിന്റെ പരിഹാരത്തിനായി ജനങ്ങളും ഒത്തുചേർന്നു് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനോടു് സങ്കടം ബോധിപ്പിച്ചു. ഇതിന്റെ ഫലമായി പതിനാലു കൊല്ലങ്ങൾക്കു മുമ്പാണു് ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് ഇന്നത്തെ രജിസ്ട്രാഫീസനുവദിച്ചു കിട്ടിയതു്. വാടകക്കെട്ടിത്ത ഒരു സ്ഥലത്തു വച്ചാണു് ഈ ആഫീസു് നടത്തിവന്നതും. മാസത്തിൽ ഫ 0 ഉറുപ്പിക വീതം വാടകയുള്ള ഈ കെട്ടിടം ഒരു പന്തീരാണ്ടുകാലം രജിസ്ട്രാഫീസായിട്ടങ്ങിനെ കഴിഞ്ഞു ഒടുവിൽ ഫ 0 നു-ലെ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ പഴയന്നൂരിൽ ഒരു രജിസ്ട്രാഫീസു് കെട്ടുവാൻ ഇ,0 0 0 ഉറുപ്പിക വകനീക്കുകയും, കെട്ടിടം പണികഴിപ്പിച്ചു് ഫ 0 ൈ-ൽ ആഫീസു് അതിനായുള്ള ഈ പുതിയ കെട്ടിടത്തിൽ വച്ചു നടത്തിതുടങ്ങുകയും ചെയ്തു. ഇങ്ങിനെ അവിടെ ഒരു രജിസ്ട്രാഫീസിന്റെ ആവശ്യത്തെ പരീക്ഷിച്ചറിഞ്ഞു് അതിന്നായി ഒരു വമ്പിച്ചതുക ചിലവുചെയ്തു് കെട്ടിടം കെട്ടി ഗവമ്മെണ്ടതിനെ സ്ഥിരപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടു് മാസങ്ങൾ ചിലതുമാത്രമേ കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളൂ. ഈ ഘട്ടത്തിലാണു് ഫ ർ കൊല്ലം മുമ്പു് ഞങ്ങൾ എവിടെയായിരുന്നുവോ അവിടേക്കു തന്നെ തിരിച്ചു പോകുവാൻ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു ഞങ്ങളെ നിർബ്ബന്ധിക്കുന്നതു്. വാസ്തവത്തിൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു വലുതായ സങ്കടമാണിതു്. ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു പണക്ഷാമം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നുവെന്നു വിചാരിച്ചു് ജനങ്ങളെ കഷ്ടപ്പെടുത്തിയാൽ ഈ പണക്ഷാമം തീരുകയില്ല. അഥവാ ജനങ്ങളെ കഷ്ടപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടില്ലാ പണക്ഷാമം തീർക്കേണ്ടതു്. യഥാർത്ഥത്തിൽ ക്ഷാമബാധ ഈ രാജ്യത്തെങ്ങാനുമുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ഇവിടെ ഇന്നു് വ 0 0 ഉറുപ്പിക ശമ്പളമുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ഉണ്ടായി എന്നു വരികയില്ല. അവരുടെ ശമ്പളം കുറക്കണമെന്നു് ജനപ്രതിനിധികളാവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടും അതു ചെയ്യാതിരുന്ന ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ക്ഷാമബാധിതമാണെന്നു് എങ്ങിനെ സമ്മതിക്കാം? നായർ റിബലേഷൻ നടപ്പിലായതുമൂലം അനവധി ആധാരങ്ങൾ രജിസ്ട്രാക്കേണ്ടതായി വന്നിട്ടുണ്ടു്. പഴയന്നൂരിൽ ഇപ്പോൾ ഇരിയ്ക്കുന്ന രജിസ്ട്രാക്കു് ഫ ഫ മണി മുതൽ ൈ മണിവരെ ജോലിയുണ്ടായി എന്നു വരികയില്ല. ആധാരങ്ങളുടെ എണ്ണം അതിലധികമില്ലാത്തതാവാം അതിന്റെ ഹേതു. ആധാരങ്ങളുടെ എണ്ണമല്ല നോക്കേണ്ടതു്. അവിടെയുള്ള പരിവു നോക്കുന്നപക്ഷം മറ്റു രജിസ്ട്രാഫീസുകളുടെ ഒട്ടും പിന്നിലല്ല പഴയന്നൂർ രജിസ്ട്രാഫീസെന്നു തീർച്ചയായും കാണാം. ഓരോ ആധാരത്തിനേയും സല വളരെ കൂടുതൽ ഉണ്ടായിരിയ്ക്കും. ആധാരങ്ങളുടെ എണ്ണം കുറഞ്ഞുകാണുന്നതാണു് ഈ ആഫീസെടുത്തു കളയാൻ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനെ പ്രേരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതെങ്കിൽ അതു കേവലം അന്യായമാണു്. ഈ പ്രദേശത്തു് അധികവും ഹിന്ദുക്കളും, അതിൽ അധികപക്ഷവും നായന്മാരു

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മാണ്. രജിസ്ട്രാഫീസിന്റെ ആവശ്യം ഇപ്പോൾ അധികപക്ഷവും ഇവക്കാണെന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ അബദ്ധമാകയില്ല. ഇവക്ക് ആധാരം രജിസ്ട്രാക്കുവാൻവേണ്ടി സ്ത്രീകളേയും, കുട്ടികളേയുംകൊണ്ട് ചേലക്കരയ്ക്കു പോകുകയെന്നുള്ളതു് അസഹ്യമായ കഷ്ടപ്പാടാണ്. ഒരുപക്ഷേ, പോയദിവസം തന്നെ ആധാരം രജിസ്ട്രാക്കുവാൻ സൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടായില്ലെങ്കിൽ പിറ്റേദിവസവും അവർ അവിടെതന്നെ താമസിക്കണം. സ്ത്രീകളും, കുട്ടികളുമൊന്നിച്ച് പരിചയമില്ലാത്ത ദിക്കിൽ ഒരു ദിവസം താമസിക്കേണ്ടി വന്നാലുണ്ടാകാവുന്നുള്ള പണച്ചിലവിരിയ്ക്കട്ടെ, കഷ്ടപ്പാടുകൾ എത്രയെന്നു് വലിയവക്ക് അറിയുവാൻ കഴിയുന്നതല്ല. ഇതിൽ ഒരു സംഗതി ഞാൻ പറയുന്നു. നാട്ടുകാർ ഈ ആഫീസു് തിരിച്ചു കിട്ടുവാനുള്ള സംരംഭത്തിൽനിന്നും പിൻവലിയുവാൻ ഭാവമില്ല. നാട്ടുകാരോടു പണം പിരിച്ചു് (ഇതു് എന്റെ നാട്ടിലുള്ളവരുടെ അഭിപ്രായമാണു്). അവർ ഇതുസംബന്ധിച്ചു് ഒരു മീറ്റിംഗ് ഒക്കെക്കൂടി ആലോചിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ആദ്യം ഒരു പോലീസുസ്റ്റേഷൻ വച്ചിട്ടു പിന്നീടു് അതു് എടുത്തുകളഞ്ഞു. അരുതാത്തതാണതെന്നു് ഞാനന്നുതന്നെ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനെ ഉപദേശിച്ചു. അതിനുശേഷം പലപ്രാവശ്യവും അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

ഇനി ഏതെങ്കിലും ആഫീസെടുത്തുകളയുന്നതു് നാട്ടുകാരുടെ പ്രതിനിധികളായ പഞ്ചായത്തുകാരോടു് ആലോചിച്ചു വേണമെന്നും അന്നു പറഞ്ഞിരുന്നു. രജിസ്ട്രാഫീസിന്റെ കാര്യത്തിൽ നാട്ടുകാരുടെ ഉദ്ദേശം സാധിയ്ക്കുവാനുള്ള ആലോചനകൾ അവർ ചെയ്തു കഴിഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ തീരുമാനിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളപോലെ മക്കടമുഷ്കിൽ പിടിച്ചു അതിനെ കന്നി ഫ്രാങ്കു മുതൽ നിലത്തിക്കളയാൻ തന്നെയാണു് ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടുദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതെങ്കിൽ അതുകൊണ്ടുണ്ടാകാനിടയുള്ള ദൈഷമ്യങ്ങൾ എന്തൊക്കെയാണെന്നാണും ഞാൻ ഇപ്പോൾ പറയുന്നില്ല. എന്തും ചെയ്യാനവരെ പ്രേരിപ്പിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം അത്ര സങ്കടമാണു് ഇതില്ലാതാകുന്നതിൽ നാട്ടുകാക്കുള്ളതു്. ഒരു രണ്ടായിരം ഉറുപ്പിക ആദായമുണ്ടാക്കാതെ കഴികയില്ലെന്നാണെങ്കിൽ അതിനു് വേറെ വഴി നോക്കുകതന്നെ വേണം. നിങ്ങളുടെ ശമ്പളത്തിൽ കുറവുചെയ്യ" അതുണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊള്ളണമെന്നാണു് നികുതികൊടുത്തു് നിങ്ങളെ ചോറുന്ന ആ ആളുകൾ പറയുന്നതു്. അതു് ഇവിടെ നിങ്ങളെ ബോധിപ്പിക്കേണ്ട ചുമതല അവരുടെ പ്രതിനിധിയായ എനിക്കുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ ഇതു് ഇങ്ങിനെ പറയുന്നതാണു്.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—Sir, I too support this motion. From the answer given by the Treasury Bench to the question put in by the Hon'ble Member for Ernakulam I understand that no enquiries have been made whether these Registry Offices are working at a profit or loss. So far as the Kallettumkara

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Registry Office is concerned I am led to understand that the Registry Office is working at a profit of Rs. 2,000 or more. I do not for a moment understand why, especially during this economic depression and when the Government wants money, they should go and abolish a Registry Office which gives to the Government about Rs. 2000 a year. One thing the Government may say that all this income will be coming even if this Registry Office is abolished. I respectfully submit that it would not; because there are several documents which need not be registered. But if there is a convenient Registry Office close by, the parties will be anxious to get those documents registered and will at once get them registered. Only in cases where registration is compulsory will the parties go to such distant places. So certainly the income will be reduced. When the Government can make a profit of Rs. 2,000 a year I cannot for a moment understand why the Government proposes to abolish that office. If the Government inquires and finds my statement true, I cannot find any reason to abolish that office at Kallettumkara. With regard to the other offices my learned friends will speak.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Sir, I support the motion. On the excuse of retrenchment the Government have ordered the suspension of four Registry Offices in the State from Kanni 1108. From the Budget before us we find that provision has been made for these Registry Offices also for 1108. And yet after the Budget is prepared and these offices provided for, out comes the Government with its inexhorable axe and applies it at a place which should have been one of the last to be touched. The Hon'ble the Finance Member, with a show of liberality, in his speech introducing the Budget, boasts that the retrenchment axe has been applied only without affecting the works which contribute for the moral and material advancement of the people. But in the face of this order suspending these Registry Offices it appears to me wonderful that the Government can still make such a statement with any good grace whatsover. Need you be told that the suspension of these Registry Offices will very materially affect a very large section of the people of the State?

After all, is there any necessity for such frantic efforts at retrenchment in the matters which vitally affect the convenience and well-being of the people. The Government have budgetted for a surplus revenue of Rs. 1,89,000. If after providing for these Registry Offices also, the Government can budget for a surplus, what is the earthly reason for the suspension of these Registry Offices?

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Again Registry Offices are not institutions started merely for the purpose of filling the coffers of the Government. They are intended primarily for the convenience of the people. And it is for this reason that Government have established so many Registry Offices in different parts of the State. Otherwise why not abolish all Registry Offices except one in the Headquarters of each Taluk? This would save a lot of money to the Government. Registry Offices should never be considered merely as a money-making concern. It is not a joint-stock company whose usefulness is to be counted merely by the dividend it gives every year. Still even looking from this point of view, we find that the Registration Department gives a very good return. For 1108, the budget etimates for a revenue of Rs. 1,25,000 while the expenditure, even after providing for the offices to be suspended, comes to only Rs. 96,000, thus making a net saving of Rs. 28,700. In the face of these figures what is the justification for the suspension of these offices, unless, it be some sort of ingenuity of the officers for making retrenchment for retrenchment sake alone?

Now let us see what is the big saving the Government is going to make after putting the people to the greatest inconvenience. They may be able to send away 4 Registrars and save their pay which might come to Rs. 2,800. With regard to the clerks and peons, most of them might be necessary for the additional work that will fall to the Registry Offices with which these are to be amalgamated. Thus the saving will not be commensurate with the trouble and inconvenience that will be caused to the people. The game is surely not worth the candle.

In this connection I may make a special reference to the Registry Office at Narakkal. For the last 18 years or so the people of Narakkal and the neighbouring villages have been petitioning the Government to establish a Registry Office at Narakkal. Last year the Government fully realising the seriousness of the complaint started an enquiry to ascertain how far it was necessary and advisable to establish a Registry Office at Narakkal. The Superintendent investigated the matter from all standpoints, made local inspection of the villages and after ascertaining the needs of the people reported to the Government that a Registry Office is necessary at Narakkal. The Government accepting the recommendation of the Superintendent makes the following observation in their order:—

'The Superintendent of Registration reports that the grievances complained of by the inhabitants of Narakkal, Kadamakkudi, etc., villages are real, that there is scope for a new office at Narakkal and that by its opening, the congestion of work in the Cochin and Kuzhupilly Registry Offices will be reduced. Besides it is stated that both the offices at Narakkal and Kuzhu-

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pilly will be self-supporting The inhabitants of Narakkal have deposited a sum of Rs. 750 to wards the expenses for the opening of a new office, etc." It is under these circumstances that the Registry Office at Narakkal was established. There have not been any change in the circumstances referred to in the order. If economic depression is to be pleaded as a reason for its suspension, this economic depression was existing in no less rigour at the time the Government passed the order. It is only after taking stock of all this and after a mature consideration for many years, that the Government decided to start the office. The very fact that the people contributed Rs. 750 towards the expenses for this office should proclaim the urgent need the people felt for this office. Whereelse have the Government got such a contribution for a Registry office?

Further the anticipations of the Government referred to in the order have been fully realised. The scope for an officer at Narakkal and its self-supporting nature have been amply proved from the number of documents registered and the income derived. Both the offices at Narakkal and Kuzhupilli are self-supporting, nay, they both bring to the Government a very substantial revenue over and above the expenditure.

For the last nine months the Narakkal office has registered about 1,200 documents and got a revenue of about Rs. 2,800. The expenditure for maintaining the office will not be more than Rs. 1,600. Thus we find a saving of Rs. 1,200 and this only for nine months—at a time when there is severe depression in the locality and when various kuries amounting to one lakh of rupees had been suspended. If these kuries had not been suspended by the free will of the parties concerned, I dare say the income would have been doubled. So also in the case of Kuzhupilli Registry office.

It is most surprising to me why Narakkal should have been selected for this step-motherly treatment. I can understand this attitude if the offices were not self-supporting or there was no need for the office. There are offices which are working at a very heavy loss and still the Government carry on with them. I do not want them also to be suspended, but I mention this only to point out that in the face of retaining of all such offices, there is absolutely no justification for the Government for the suspension of an office which is not only self-supporting but which gives a very good surplus.

Further Kuzhupilli is far away from Narakkal. There is no road convenience for the people to go to Kuzhupilli or Cochin. The only reason advanced by the Hon'ble Government Member for the suspension is that bus services have come to stay. This

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does not apply to Narakkal. During winter boat journey is extremely dangerous. Anddduring summer the crossing of the Kuzhupilli desert is a feat which nobody attempts

What is the gain the Government intend to make by this suspension? There are in all one Registrar, one head clerk, 2 clerks and two peons. These two clerks were taken one from Cochin and the other from Kuzhupilli. If this office is suspended these clerks shouldbe sent to these offices to cope with the additional work. Then the profit is only with regard to one Registrar, the head clerk and peons. Their pay might come to about Rs. 1,400. Let us take it that this amount can be saved. But then out of this sum Rs. 750 have to be returned to the people for their contribution. What is the balance left? About Rs. 600 or so. But then what about the enhanced income that would be derived by the Registry office? So taking into consideration all these facts, I maintain that there is absolutely no reason whatever for the suspension of the Registry office.

Mr. A. I. Mani.—Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the motion. In doing so, I shall confine myself to some observations regarding the Kallettumkara Registry office in my constituency.

It is true that the abolishment of this Registry office is intended as a measure of retrenchment. But before laying the axe of retrenchment on any existing department, the Government should consider whether that particular office is working satisfactorily and profitably, whether it would entail dislocation and inconvenience. If the office is working at a loss and if its suspension does not cause any serious distress and difficulty to the people concerned, I can understand the force of the argument to abolish it. But in this particular case, the things are otherwise. The Kallettumkara Registration office was opened to relieve congestion of work in the Nellayi, Chalakkudi and Irinjalakkuda Registry offices and to avoid the hardship of the people in getting their documents registered without unnecessary trouble and delay. Now by the contemplated amalgamation, the above said evils cannot be removed.

The jurisdiction of the present Kallettumkara Registration office comprises the villages of Kallettumkara, Thazhakkad, Alur, Perampra, Muriyad, Kaduppasseri, Anandapuram and Kodakara. The range of these villages comes up to 12--15 miles. This is indeed a pretty long distance. Besides, during the monsoon season, there will beflood in almost all the villages and it is extremely difficult for people especially for females and patients of these villages to go either to Nellayi or to Chalakkudi. To go to Irinjalakkuda also is not an easy thing. So, it would be cruel on the part of the Government to ask these people to go to any of the other Registration offices.

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The Kallettumkara Registration office is in a central place and is very popular and profitable. It has more than amply certified to its existence. This office was started in the month of Thulam 1106 and as many as 2,200 documents have been registered in that year alone. In 1107 also it has done good work. Not less than the previous year's number has been registered and it is worthy of note that these two years the office was working satisfactorily and profitably. On an aggregate, there has been a net income or profit of nearly Rs. 3,000. I know, Sir, that if this office is abolished, the Government can make some savings. If that is the attitude of the Government, then it is enough, if we have two Registration offices, one at Ernakulam and another at Trichur. We know, Sir, in that case much saving can be made and that people who want to register their documents will go to these two offices. But then, consider, the inconvenience the people will be put to and the sacrifice they have to make in such a case. So, that is not the attitude the Government should assume in matters like these. If the office is not useful and is not popular and if it is not functioning its purpose in the matter of convenience to the public and if the office is working at a loss, abolish it by all means. If it is useful and convenient to the public and profitable to the Government restore it at once.

In this connection it is worth remembering that over half a lakh of rupees are collected as revenue from the people of the villages constituting the Kallettumkara Registry office and that this Registry office was opened on the day on which the present Diwan assumed charge of the reigns of administration. So much so the people of the place look upon this as a monument erected in memory of his good and benign Government.

For these reasons, I support the motion.

The House rose for the day at 5 p. m.

C. J. MATHEW,
Secretary to the Council.

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